

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE



REPORT ON GREENEST REGION COMPACT MARCH 7, 2023



**Greenest
Region
Compact**

COLLABORATING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

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INTRODUCTION

At the January 10, 2023 Council meeting, the Village Council directed staff to explore joining the Greenest Region Compact (GRC) and review the GRC documentation to determine the time commitment necessary to join and discuss as a Council adoption of the document. The Council also directed staff to prepare a report analyzing the extent to which Village environmental sustainability efforts comport with the Greenest Region Compact Framework.

This report identifies and summarizes the environmental sustainability efforts that the Village currently undertakes or has recently completed. These Village actions are compared to the GRC Framework goals, objectives and strategies.

Key Takeaways

The Village Takes Many Actions in Support of the Strategic Goal *Steward of Environmental Sustainability* - Over 200 actions and efforts supporting environmental sustainability are identified and summarized in this report. These actions support the Village's goal of *Steward of Environmental Sustainability*. The Village does not have a formal sustainability plan or reporting process. Sustainability efforts are carried out on an informal basis in support of the strategic goal as the Village Council provides policy direction and the staff undertakes daily operations.

The Village Informs the Public about Sustainability Efforts - While the Village does not use a formal reporting process, significant efforts are made to inform the public about environmental sustainability actions. The Village has produced and published many short form videos highlighting sustainability efforts (including Watersmart, Preserving & Restoring Natural Areas, Rain Barrel Sale, Native Tree & Shrub Sale, Pollinator Gardens, Downtown Accessibility Improvement Project, Historic Preservation Program, Online Permitting, and Downtown Recycling). Further, the Village website provides information about sustainability efforts. Over 60 *Top Stories* related to GRC Framework actions have been posted since 2018. Most of the actions summarized in this report are highlighted on the Village website.

There is Significant Alignment Between the Village's Sustainability Efforts and the GRC Framework - The Village actions and efforts support:

- 94% of the GRC Goals (46 of 49 Goals Supported)
- 57% of GRC Objectives (180 of 315 Objectives Supported)
- 51% of GRC Strategies (53 of 104 Strategies Supported)

There is strong alignment in the Land, Water, Waste & Recycling and Mobility Categories. The alignment is not as strong in categories such as Climate, Energy, Sustainable Communities and Leadership.

How to Read This Report

This report is a preliminary assessment of the extent to which current and recent Village environmental sustainability efforts comport with the GRC Framework. The assessment is summarized in the following four ways for each of the ten categories in the GRC Framework.

By The Numbers - This section indicates the number of GRC Goals, Objectives and Strategies in each of the framework categories that the Village actions support. For example, in the Land Use category, the Goals information reads 7/7 indicating that the Village actions identified in the report support seven of the total seven goals. In the Energy category the Goals information reads 4 / 5 indicating that the Village actions support four of the five goals. If one Village action is identified for a category, then that category is shown to be supported by Village activities.

GRC Framework Alignment Box - Each section of this report includes indicators next to the listed GRC goals showing how strongly Village actions align with GRC goals. A guide to these indicators can be found at the bottom of this page.

Summary of Village Actions with References to the Framework Numbers - Each section of this report includes a summary of the key environmental sustainability actions undertaken. The GRC Framework reference number appears immediately following the action item. The number indicates which of the Goals, Objectives and Strategies the action item supports. For example, the action *Operate the Bioswale Program (L29, L29A)* means that the action item supports the GRC Objective **L29** *Manage traditional, cultivated landscapes sustainably* and the Strategy L29A *Replace turf with sustainable landscaping alternatives*. In the GRC Framework, the reference numbers for Objectives appear in bold and the summary tables in this report show the reference numbers in the same manner.

Annotated GRC Framework - Each section of this report includes an annotated GRC Framework worksheet on the particular section of the GRC report. Each of the Goals, Objectives and Strategies supported by the Village actions summarized in the report are highlighted in yellow. The entirety of the annotated GRC Framework can be found at the end of this report.

- - Indicates that Village actions align with over 76% of GRC recommendations in this goal
- ◐ - Indicates that Village actions align with 51%-75% of GRC recommendations in this goal
- ◑ - Indicates that Village actions align with 26%-50% of GRC recommendations in this goal
- ◒ - Indicates that Village actions align with some but less than 25% of GRC recommendations in this goal
- - Indicates that Village actions do not align with this particular GRC goal

By the Numbers Summary

Category	Goals		Objectives		Strategies	
	Goals Supported by VoDG Actions	Goals in the GRC Framework	Objectives Supported by VoDG Actions	Objectives in the GRC Framework	Strategies Supported by VoDG Actions	Strategies in the GRC Framework
Land Use	7	7	31	46	33	43
Water	7	7	45	60	10	22
Waste & Recycling	5	5	15	25	4	9
Municipal Operations	4	4	10	17	4	14
Mobility	5	5	26	39	0	2
Energy	5	5	11	33	1	4
Sustainable Communities	6	7	23	54	0	6
Economic Development	2	2	6	12	–	–
Climate	3	4	7	18	1	4
Leadership	2	3	6	11	–	–
Total	46	49	180	315	53	104

Village Strategic Goal

The Strategic Goals include *Steward of Financial, Environmental and Neighborhood Sustainability*. The following is an excerpt from the 2021-2023 Long Range Plan:

“Environmental sustainability refers to the Village’s responsibility to deliver its services in a way that protects or enhances natural resources. The Village seizes opportunities to ‘green’ its operations when possible, whether by seeking grants to introduce new environmentally friendly practices or by seeking the most environmentally friendly option for existing services.”

The Village’s environmental sustainability efforts are guided by this strategic goal. The Village does not have a formal sustainability plan or reporting process. Sustainability efforts are carried out on an informal basis as the Village Council provides policy direction and the staff undertakes daily operations.

The Greenest Region Compact

The GRC is operated by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. Below is an excerpt of the Caucus' summary of the GRC. [Click here for the complete summary.](#)

“The Greenest Region Compact (GRC) leverages the strength of municipal government to build vibrant, sustainable communities across the Chicago region. The foundation of the GRC is 49 high-level goals that have been reached by consensus; not only are the goals aligned with important local, regional, national and global goals, but they are also broadly supported by municipal members of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and allied organizations. These consensus goals guide municipal action, support mayors in their role as environmental leaders, and foster collaboration that has positive impacts on sustainability in the region.

Municipalities adopt the GRC by formal resolution and agree to work to achieve GRC goals in their community and in collaboration with other municipalities across the region. To date, 144 communities of all sizes and strengths have adopted the GRC to improve the quality of life for more than 6 million residents, which makes the GRC the largest regional sustainability collaborative for municipalities in the country. See the full list of GRC Communities. All Metropolitan Mayors Caucus member communities are invited to support the GRC by passing a municipal resolution.

The GRC’s 49 high-level goals are tailored for municipalities and fall into ten sustainability categories: climate, economic development, energy, land, leadership, mobility, municipal operations, sustainable communities, water, and waste & recycling. Municipalities that adopt the GRC are making a commitment to generally support its consensus goals. Specific actions are prioritized and monitored by communities to best suit their own objectives and abilities. Once your village/county board or city council passes this model municipal resolution supporting the goals of the GRC, and you report your community’s adoption of the GRC to Edith Makra, Director of Environmental Initiatives, you become a GRC Community. You will then be given access to GRC promotional material and invited to join in collaborative projects that will help achieve GRC goals for your community and the region. At this time, there is no reporting requirement for GRC Communities and there is no cost to Metropolitan Mayors Caucus members.

The GRC Framework is the companion document that provides objectives, strategies, and tools to help communities address goals of the GRC. The Framework is flexible—municipalities of all sizes and resource levels can use the Framework to undertake appropriate and impactful sustainability actions. The Framework incorporates sustainability programs already accessible and popular with local governments. Use the GRC Framework as a self-assessment checklist to inventory your municipal accomplishments. The results can inform residents, staff and guide future planning.”

GRC Action Items in Top Stories

Over the past several years the Village has featured dozens of articles on sustainability efforts. Many of these efforts are actions that support the GRC Framework. The following are links to over 60 *Top Stories* posted on the website and social media platforms from 2018 to the present.

Get Hooked on Watersmart	Green Leadership Award Winner
Beware of Invasive Knotweed	Record Low Temperatures
Tree Recycling	Tree Planting
Social Services Referral Program	Chloride Reduction Workshops
Sharps Disposal	Green Fleet Award
Paperless Permitting	Cottonwood Tree on Rogers Street
Monarchs, Migration & Milkweed	Bee's Eye View of Pollinator Garden
Cleanup Amnesty Day	Water System
Household Hazardous Waste Disposal	Brick Streets
Civic Center Project	DG Recognized for Excellence in Stormwater
Preserving Natural Areas	Focus on Traffic Safety
Mortgage Assistance Webinar	Severe Weather Preparedness
Social Services Referrals	Cold Weather Info
DuPage Water Quality Program	DuPage County Stormwater Input
DuPage Stormwater Water Quality Comments	Reasons to Shop Local
DuPage Transportation Plan	Prentiss Creek Streetlights
Bioswale Program	Main Street Cemetery
Downtown Bike Racks	Compost Information Meeting
Bike Awareness	Belmont Pollinator Garden
Downtown Outdoor Dining	Amendments to Stormwater Regulations
Historic Preservation Month	Response to Watermain Breaks
Register for Watersmart	FEMA Floodmaps and Insurance Policy
Happy Arbor Day	Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan
Avoid Volcano Mulching	Pumpkin Smash
Rain Barrel Sale	Pollinator Pics for BioBlitz
Native Tree and Shrub Sale	Heat Advisory
Caring for Trees	DuPage County Housing Plan
Coat Drive	Street Sustainability
Dine DG	Fleet Maintenance
Water System Backflow Prevention	Anti-Icing Underway
Restoring Native Areas	Solar Energy in DG
Holiday Light Recycling	

Civic Center Project Environmentally Sustainable Features - In addition to the sustainable features of the Civic Center Project as required by existing building codes, the new facility and associated site improvements include the following enhanced environmentally sustainable features, as discussed and directed by the Village Council during the January 11 and March 8, 2022 meetings:

- Stormwater Enhancements to reduce stormwater runoff and stormwater pollution:
 - Green Roof - Installed on approximately 10% of roof areas to reduce stormwater runoff
 - Permeable Pavers - Installed in 100% of parking surfaces to reduce stormwater runoff
 - Bioswales and Rain Gardens - approximately 80% of landscaped areas to reduce stormwater pollution
- Water Use Reduction – approximately 20% more efficient than baseline
 - Efficient plumbing fixtures throughout
 - Native plantings throughout to reduce irrigation needs and enhance habitat for pollination & native insects
 - Rainwater Harvesting for Irrigation Systems - Includes installation of two underground cisterns to reduce stormwater runoff and use of potable water for irrigation
- Increase Energy Performance - approximately 30% more energy efficient than existing buildings
 - Enhanced Exterior Building Envelope - insulation, sunshades, glare control, etc.
 - Mechanical System Enhancements – heat recovery
- Renewable Energy:
 - Photovoltaic (PV) Panels - located on new facility roof and secure parking lot carport to offset approximately 20 to 25% of electrical load



GRC Category - Land Use

By the Numbers

Goals	7/7
Objectives	31/46
Strategies	33/43

Summary: Land use practices are generally recognized as an important part of building environmentally sustainable communities. The Downers Grove Comprehensive Plan Land Use Plan states that the purpose is “to promote a sustainable and holistic approach to growth and development that protects and enhances existing neighborhoods, strengthens commercial areas, protects industrial areas and employment centers, and enhances the Village’s network of parks and open space and provision of community services.” Land use is one of the largest categories within the GRC framework.

GRC Goals

1. Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles 🌱
2. Conserve restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems ●
3. Support networks of accessible, well-used and enjoyable parks 🌳
4. Sustain a robust urban forest canopy ●
5. Sustain beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services 🌿
6. Achieve greater livability through sustainable land use and housing policy 🏡
7. Cultivate a conservation ethic in the community 🌲



Pictured: Greenway along St. Joseph's Creek.

Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
<p>Zoning Ordinance and related development codes promote infill development and complete residential neighborhoods by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allowing for mixed-use developments • encouraging continued use and additions to non-conforming structures • allowing for development on existing platted lots • requiring pedestrian connections from front door to public sidewalks • requiring the construction of public improvements including sidewalks, parkway trees, streetlights, etc, 	<p>L1, L1A, L32, L32A, L32B, L32C</p>
<p>Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance promote transit oriented development and walkability in the downtown and Fairview areas</p>	<p>L2, L2B, L32, L32B, L32C</p>
<p>Entered into Public/Private partnerships (redevelopment agreements) for transit oriented developments (Main & Maple, Acadia, Station Crossing, Georgian Courts)</p>	<p>L2, L2A, L32, L32A, L32B, L32C</p>
<p>Transit oriented developments include Marquis on Maple, Burlington Station, Maple & Washington, Apartments at 2nd & Fairview, Apartments at Prospect & Rogers</p>	<p>L2, L2A, L32, L32B, L32C</p>
<p>Facilitated redevelopment of contaminated properties including Packey Webb Ford, Development at Southeast Corner of Ogden & Saratoga, Development at Northwest Corner of Main and Ogden</p>	<p>L1, L1C</p>
<p>Stormwater regulations require Post Construction Best Management Practices (PCBMPs)</p>	<p>L8, L30, L30C</p>

Land Use


Comprehensive Plan and watershed plans identify natural assets for ecosystem function	L9
Plan Commission applications are required to use EcoCAT	L9
Purchased and demolished houses in floodplains, floodways and localized poor drainage areas (LPDAs) (Lee Avenue south of Ogden , Multiple Properties Along St. Joseph's Creek)	L10, L10A
Conserve natural area in conjunction with Park District and Forest Preserve District to operate Lyman Woods	L10, L10B, L12, L14, L14A, L18, L18A
Preserve Village historical and cultural landmarks with Historic Landmark program	L11
Construct, own and maintain paths that connect to Downers Grove Park District Parks (Lee & Grant Park, Hoopers Hollow)	L10, L12, L17, L17B, L18, L18B
Own and maintain a wetland bank at 40th & Glendenning with the Downers Grove Park District	L10, L14, L14A, L17, L17B, L18, L18C
Constructed pollinator gardens and naturalized areas at multiple locations (Belmont Underpass, 2nd & Cumnor, Burlington Highlands, Robey Pond)	L14, L14A, L29, L29A
Taking steps to prevent and mitigate knotweed	L14, L14B
Own and manage numerous properties with native plantings or natural landscapes	L14, L14B
Enforce soil erosion and sediment control regulations at construction sites (public and private sites)	L15, L15A
Comprehensive Plan includes a Park and Open Space Plan in Parks, Open Space and Natural Resources chapter	L16
Constructed a pedestrian bridge and paved path at Jefferson and Brookbank	L17, L17A
Created public gathering spaces at private developments (Marquis on Maple , Duly Health on Main Street , Acadia on the Green, Station Crossing)	L17, L17D
Allow private restaurants to use public space for outdoor dining areas	L17, L17D
Maintain the public tree system in a sustainable manner (see Urban Forestry and Municipal Landscape Manual). Annual tree planting consists of replacement trees and trees in new locations (2022 plantings included 382 replacement and 17 new locations)	L20, L21, L22, L23, L23A, L23B, L23C, L23D, L24, L24A, L24B, L24C, L25
Earn Tree City USA designation on an annual basis	L26
Plant native landscaping in street medians (Claremont, Prairie)	L29, L29A, L30
Plant native landscaping on projects when possible such as Otis Grant Florence Drainage Improvement Project, 2nd & Cumnor	L30
Converted turf grass to sustainable plants with Public Works rain garden , Claremont medians, and Belmont Pollinator garden	L29, L29A, L30A
Operate the Bioswale program	L29, L29A, L30, L30A
Operate the Native Tree and Shrub Sale	L30, L30B


Use native and sustainable landscaping on municipal projects such as the Public Works Rain Garden and the Civic Center Project	L30, L30A
Proclamation in support of the Mayors Monarch Pledge	L30, L30C
Maintain beautiful streetscapes in the downtown area	L31
Zoning Ordinance includes build-to-zones in the downtown districts	L32, L32B, L32C
Stormwater regulations protect and regulate wetlands, floodplains and LPDAs	L33, L33A, L33B
Protect Lyman Woods using conditions in the Planned Development Ordinances for Midwestern University and Good Samaritan Hospital	L14, L14C, L33, L33E, L18, L18A, L33, L33E
Zoning Ordinance requires a minimum amount of green-space	L36
Zoning Ordinance contains landscape requirements for parking lots	L36
Protect public ash trees by implementing the Emerald Ash Borer program	L37
Partner with the Downers Grove Park District and School District 58 to celebrate Arbor Day	L38
Produced videos and promotional materials educating the public about naturalized areas and sustainable landscaping (see page 6)	L39
Partner with other agencies and organizations to participate in the DuPage River Sweep	L40, L39
Educate staff about forest and wetlands best management practices	L41
Partner with the Conservation Foundation to encourage sustainable landscaping on private property	L30, L30B, L42
Comprehensive Plan identifies infill catalyst sites	L1, L1C
Partnering with CMAP, DuDOT, Lombard and Oak Brook to prepare a Butterfield Road Study	L3
Completed a restoration of St. Joseph's Creek near Webster St, installed rain gardens in right-of-ways, Clyde Estate Improvements	L30, L30A
Site management regulations protect parkways trees	L+28
Downtown Design Guidelines encourage walkable development	L32, L32C
Comprehensive Plan includes a goal to reduce curb cuts on Ogden Avenue (Ogden Focus Area)	L32, L32C
Stormwater regulations integrate resiliency strategies into development policies and plans	L34
Stormwater regulations mandate new development maintains existing drainage patterns	L11
Developed greenways along the south branch of St. Joseph Creek	L12
Constructed an accessible trail at the 2nd and Cumnor basin that connects to the adjacent park	L18
Collaborated with the Park District to enhance Washington Park and McCollum Park with new ballfields and recreational opportunities	L18, L18A, L18C


The stormwater regulations result in the installation of rains gardens on most new developments and redevelopments	L30, L30C
Provide print, web and video materials on use of native landscaping (see page 6)	L39
Volunteers from the Pierce Downer Heritage Alliance assisted in planting the Belmont underpass pollinator garden	L40, L39
The Stormwater Ordinance contains information on forest best management practices	L41
Assist the Conservation Foundation in operating the Conservation@Home program	L42





Rendering of the Civic Center Project (Police Station, Village Hall, School District 58 Office)


Category		OBJECTIVE		
		> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
GOAL				
LAND	Sustainable Development	<p><i>Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles</i></p>	L1	Reduce sprawl by promoting infill development to reduce adverse impacts on natural resources and infrastructure demands
			L1a	>Encourage the development of compact and complete residential neighborhoods
			L1b	>Protect greenfields and open space
			L1c	>Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties
			L2	Prioritize redevelopment projects and infrastructure investment for transit-served locations
			L2a	>Pursue transit oriented development and transit-supportive land uses in new development
			L2b	>Seek public-private partnerships to create transit-oriented developments
			L3	Collaborate with neighboring communities to jointly create sustainable developments
			L4	Encourage conservation design to protect natural resources
			L5	Promote Sustainable Sites Certification for commercial and institutional landscapes
			L6	Integrate resiliency into land development decisions
			L7	Support local food production by assuring access to affordable land
			L8	Evaluate proposed developments for on groundwater levels and water quality.


Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
LAND Land Preservation	Conserve restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems	L9	Using data such as the Green Infrastructure Vision and the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory, watershed plans, identify key natural assets, landscape features, parcels with high value for connectivity and ecosystem function
		L10	Conserve key natural assets and open space
		L10a	>Through direct acquisition and management
		L10b	>Through collaborations and cooperative agreements such as conservation easements
		L11	Guide future development to conserve natural topography, views, drainage patterns, existing vegetation, and historic or cultural assets
		L12	Prioritize the acquisition, dedication and management of lands to create connected greenways
		L13	Prioritize the acquisition of land to protect groundwater recharge areas
		L14	Manage public and private landscapes to optimize ecosystem services and support biodiversity
		L14a	>Collaborate to restore prairie, wetland, forest and other important ecosystems in the community
		L14b	>Monitor and control invasive species in natural areas and throughout the community
		L14c	>Ensure long-term maintenance and management of protected natural areas within Conservation Design development
		L15	Protect and restore soil integrity
		L15a	>Enforce soil erosion and sediment control regulations for construction sites

LAND	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
Parks & Open Space	Support networks of accessible, well-used and enjoyable parks	L16	Develop a park and open space master plan	
		L17	Maximize the amount of public spaces and parks accessible to residents	
		L17a	>Collaborate to provide access to under-utilized land (i.e. utility right of ways) for trails, community gardens, and sustainable landscapes	
		L17b	>Optimize linkages between parks and open spaces	
		L17c	>Work with developers to integrate and develop open space reserves and trails in developments	
		L17d	>Collaborate with private property owners to create vibrant public gathering spaces (placemaking)	
		L18	Enhance parks, open space, and recreational opportunities accessible to all residents	
		L18a	>Collaborate with park and forest preserve districts	
		L18b	>Collaborate to create and maintain hiking, biking, canoe and other recreational trails	
		L18c	>Collaborate to provide accessible recreational services involving parks and open space	
		L19	Foster healthy community relationships through the use of open space	

LAND	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE
			> STRATEGY
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY
Urban Forestry	Sustain a robust urban forest canopy	L20	Conduct a community wide urban tree canopy assessment or collaborate on a regional study
		L21	Conduct an inventory and assessment of trees on public right of ways
		L22	Develop and implement a management plan to assure a long term vitality of the urban forest
		L23	Maintain the health and integrity of existing trees
		L23a	>Maintain the health of trees on public right of ways
		L23b	>Collaborate with utilities to maintain trees compatible with overhead powerlines
		L23c	>Practice integrated pest management to sustain urban forest health
		L23d	>Assess structural integrity of trees and proactively mitigate risks through strategic removal and other actions
		L24	Plant trees to sustain and renew the urban forest
		L24a	>Continually plant hardy, site-appropriate trees to meet tree canopy goals
		L24b	>Engage resident in public stewardship through cost-share planting programs
		L24c	>Using canopy analysis data, strategically plant trees to optimize public health and stormwater benefits
		L25	Diversify the urban forest for long term resilience
		L26	Earn recognition for urban forest stewardship as a Tree City USA
		L27	Harvest and utilize high value wood products from trees that must be removed
		L+28	+ Optimize tree planting and protect existing trees for maximum carbon storage/sequestration and energy savings

			OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
Category	GOAL		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
	LAND	Landscapes	<i>Sustain beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services</i>	L29
L29a				>Replace turf with sustainable landscaping alternatives
L29b				>Manage lawns using natural products and low-impact practices
L29c				>Encourage community-wide use of integrated pest management to reduce impacts from fertilizers and pesticides
L29d				>Use integrated pest management strategies for municipal landscapes to reduce impacts from fertilizers and pesticides
L30				Increase the quality and amount of sustainable landscaping in the community
L30a				>Use native and sustainable landscaping on municipal properties
L30b				>Promote native and sustainable landscaping initiatives community wide by connecting residents to plants and information
L30c				>Increase the amount of sustainable landscaping in the community through subdivision and development codes
L30d				>Encourage planting and registering of pollinator gardens through the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge
L30e				>Adopt the Mayors Monarch Pledge
L31				Maintain beautiful landscapes and streetscapes to enhance gateways, business districts and important public spaces

A	B	C	D	E	
LAND	Category			OBJECTIVE	
				> STRATEGY	
			GOAL	+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
	Policy	<i>Achieve greater livability through sustainable land use and housing policies</i>	<i>L32</i>		Adopt codes and incentives that guide sustainable development that maximizes social benefits and minimizes infrastructure demands
			<i>L32a</i>		>Modify zoning and building regulations to allow mixed-use
			<i>L32b</i>		>Use zoning and development regulations in strategic locations to increase walkability
			<i>L32c</i>		>Promote site design that encourages the development of vibrant, walkable, commercial areas
			<i>L33</i>		Enact and enforce land use policies that protect valuable natural assets and support resiliency
			<i>L33a</i>		>Enact and enforce land-use policies that preserve open space
			<i>L33b</i>		>Enact and enforce policies that preserve and restore functioning wetlands
			<i>L33c</i>		>Enact policies that require conservation design best management practices to protect natural resources
			<i>L33d</i>		>Protect sensitive aquifer areas via land use regulations
			<i>L33e</i>		>Protect key natural assets and open space through zoning and planned unit developments
<i>L33f</i>		>Enact and enforce a tree preservation ordinance to protect valuable trees on private property			
<i>L34</i>		Integrate resiliency strategies into development policies and plans			
<i>L35</i>		Facilitate the retention of farms and other working lands			
<i>L36</i>		Enact an ordinance that requires ample sustainable tree and landscape planting for new development and redevelopments			
<i>L37</i>		Collaborate with state and federal partners to prepare for and respond to invasive pest threats			

LAND	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE
			> STRATEGY
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY
Education, Outreach & Engagement	<i>Cultivate a conservation ethic in the community</i>	L38	Engage the community in programs and special events to celebrate nature, such as Arbor Day and Earth Day
		L39	Educate the community about the value of trees, native and sustainable landscaping
		L40	Engage community volunteers in land stewardship activities on public and shared landscapes
		L41	Educate city staff about forest, wetlands and prairie best management practices
		L42	Encourage beautiful, sustainable landscaping on private property
		L43	Enlist volunteer groups to help in acquisition and stewardship of public lands
		L44	Engage residents through a natural resources, conservation and/ or tree commission
		L45	Educate planning commissioners about sustainable development principles and conservation strategies
		L46	Engage local farmers to adopt conservation practices

GRC Category - Water

By the Numbers

Goals	7/7
Objectives	45/60
Strategies	10/22

Summary: The Village of Downers Grove provides high quality, safe drinking water and is committed to using water in an efficient and sustainable manner. A number of initiatives to conserve water and reduce waste have been implemented, such as promoting water-saving practices among residents, upgrading infrastructure to reduce leaks, and using native, drought-resistant plants in landscaping. The Village also regularly monitors water usage and quality to ensure it meets the highest standards of efficiency and sustainability. By taking these proactive measures, the Village is working to protect this vital resource for future generations while ensuring a reliable water supply for its residents and businesses.

GRC Goals

1. Use and distribute water efficiently ◐
2. Protect and improve water quality ◐
3. Manage water system assets sustainably ●
4. Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater ◐
5. Enact policies to protect water resources ◐
6. Practice stewardship of water resources ◐
7. Engage the community in water stewardship ●

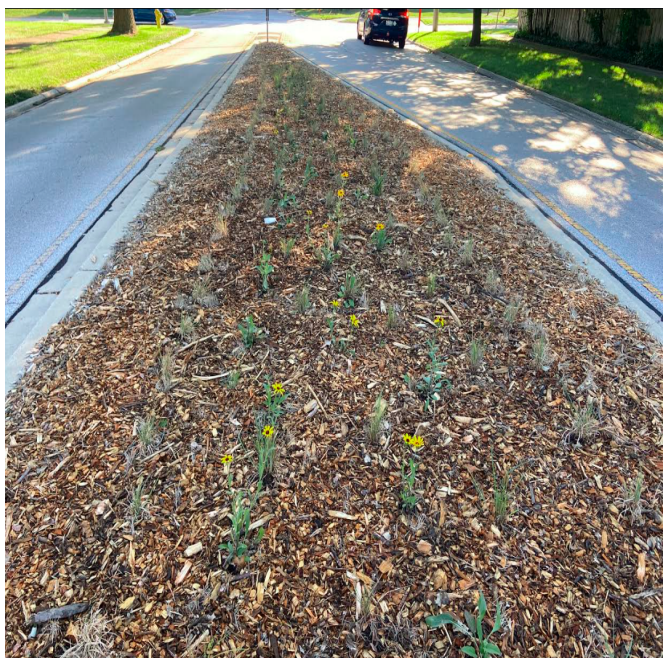


Elevated Water Storage Tanks

Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
Produce and publish videos to encourage efficient water use among residents (see page 6)	W1, W1B, W51, W52, W56, W57
Provide residents and businesses with leak test kits	W1, W1B, W51, W52, W56, W57
Operate WaterSmart software	W1, W1B, W51, W52, W56, W57
Reduced system-wide water consumption by 23.7% since 2012	W1
Partner with DuPage Water Commission on their use reduction program	W4, W48
Provide water use audits to customers	W+6
Village code contains water conservation regulations	W1, W33
The Village does not use coal tar pavements on Village projects	W9
Use liquid deicers such as beet juice and calcium chloride to reduce salt usage during snow and ice control events	W9, W9C
Calibrate salt spreaders to reduce salt use during snow and ice control events	W9, W9C
Educate snow plow operators and the public in most efficient use of chlorides in conjunction with DuPage Salt Creek Workgroup	W9, W9C
Reduced the amount of pesticides and fertilizers used on municipal property	W9, W9B
Stormwater regulations require PCMBPs and site runoff management	W11
Prepare and submit an annual water loss report to Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)	W13
Administer federal and state soil erosion and sediment control regulations in improving water quality (NPEDS program)	W13
Label storm drains indicating the destination of discharge	W14
Operate an efficient water utility that delivers clean, healthful water	W15
Track and report water loss using American Water Works Association (AWWA) reporting format	W15, W15A
Complete an annual system-wide leak detection	W15, W15B
Implement a plan for repairing and replacing water infrastructure	W15, W15B
Village Code requires leaks on the private portion of the water system to be repaired in a timely manner	W15, W15B, W16F
Use Lucity software to track and manage water and infrastructure assets	W16, W16A, W16B, W16F
Developed and implement a plan for maintenance and replacement for the water system	W16, W16A, W16B, W16F


100% of customer accounts are metered with automated reading technology (AMR)	W16, W16C
Invest water revenues into sustainable water infrastructure through water supply utility	W17
Administer an annual water main replacement program	W17
Coordinate street, utility, and water infrastructure projects	W18
Participate in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) low-interest loan program	W19
Support the Dupage River Salt Creek Workgroup to assess dams and undertake removal when feasible	W20
Participate in the FEMA Community in Community Rating System program for flood mitigation and planning (Class 6 Community)	W21
Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program	W22
Installed rain gardens and bioswales at Public Works, Fire Station 3 and Forest Lot North	W23, W23B
Constructed permeable pavers at Forest Lot North , Grove St. and Forrest Ave.	W23, W23B
Host rain barrel and native plant sales	W24
Stormwater utility includes credits and incentives for runoff reduction and water quality improvement efforts	W24
Village code requires infiltration prior to connecting to stormwater management system	W25
Constructed naturalized areas at multiple locations (Belmont Underpass, 2nd & Cumnor, Burlington Highlands, Robey Pond)	W26, W27
Collaborate with DuPage County and the Park District to enhance wetlands for improve ecosystem services at 40th and Glendenning	W27
Partner with DuPage County and other municipalities to prepare a water quality report (NPDES)	W28
Operate a stormwater utility	W+30
Conduct water rate studies on a regular basis	W31
Use full-cost pricing for water service	W32
Stormwater regulations and the stormwater utility encourages new development to follow conservation practices	W34
Village code limits watering of landscape to every other day (even/odd system)	W35
Village stormwater regulations are more restrictive than the Illinois model ordinance	W36
Allow rainwater harvesting for landscape irrigation	W37
Village Code encourages and requires green infrastructure BMPs	W39
Village Code offers multiple ways to comply with stormwater management requirements	W40
Village Code requires the use PCBMPs that protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination	W41
Prepare and implement Watershed Plans for St. Joseph Creek, Prentiss Creek and Lacey Creek	W45


Collaborate with property owners at Lacy Creek, St Joseph's Creek, Prentiss Creek to allow for streambank stabilization improvements	W46
Provide annual reports on water supply and operations to the DuPage Water Commission	W49
Produce videos and printed materials on stormwater quality and contamination reduction (see page 6)	W54
Partner with DuPage County to prepare a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan	W58
Support DuPage County school outreach efforts	W59
Hosted a webinar on St. Josephs Creek in partnership with DuPage County	W60
Collaborate with DuPage County on outreach regarding St. Josephs water creek plan	W60





Native planting in Claremont median

WATER	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
Water Conservation	<i>Use and distribute water efficiently</i>	W1	Reduce community water consumption per capita	
		W1a	>Implement water efficiency measures at all municipal facilities	
		W1b	>Encourage residents and businesses to identify and mitigate water loss	
		W2	Become a US EPA WaterSense Partner	
		W3	Designate a staff Water Conservation Coordinator to manage water conservation programs	
		W4	Participate in regional efforts and programs to conserve water	
		W+5	Provide customer incentives to retrofit using high efficiency, Water Sense appliances and fixtures	
		W+6	Provide water use audits to customers	
		W+7	Collaborate with energy utilities to integrate water conservation into energy audits for residential customers	
		W+8	Collaborate to encourage commercial, industrial and institutional customers to conserve water	
Water Quality	<i>Protect and improve water quality</i>	W9	Protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination	
		W9a	>Avoid the use of coal tar sealants on municipal property	
		W9b	>Resolve to eliminate unnecessary landscape pesticides and fertilizer use on municipal property	
		W9c	>Use sensible salting strategies to reduce chloride contamination	
		W10	Collaborate to identify sensitive aquifer recharge areas	
		W11	Support post-development runoff reduction and mitigation	
		W12	Inventory and inspect septic systems	
		W13	Collaborate with regional initiatives to protect Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River	
		W14	Label storm drains indicating the destination of discharge	

WATER	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
Water Infrastructure	Manage water system assets sustainably		W15	Operate an efficient water utility that delivers clean, healthful, water
			W15a	>Control water loss by auditing water supply system using AWWA protocols
			W15b	>Periodically detect system leaks and develop a strategic plan for repair
			W16	Comprehensively and sustainably manage water infrastructure
			W16a	>Develop a water infrastructure asset management plan to sustain the system
			W16b	>Implement the water infrastructure asset management plan to sustain the system
			W16c	>Meter 100% of customers with automated reading technology
			W16d	>Implement sub-metering for multi-family housing customers
			W16e	>Detect and repair water system leaks
			W16f	>Repair and replace inefficient water supply infrastructure
			W16g	>Support property owners in timely repair of service lines through third-party warranty program
			W17	Invest water revenues into sustaining water infrastructure
			W18	Coordinate street, utility and water infrastructure projects
			W19	Seek both public and private financing partnerships for infrastructure improvements
			W20	Riparian communities: Collaborate with other agencies to assess dam performance and support removal when feasible

Category			OBJECTIVE
	GOAL		> STRATEGY
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY
WATER	Stormwater Management and Green Infrastructure	<i>Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater</i>	W21 Participate in the Community Rating System for flood mitigation and planning
			W22 Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program allowing residents to access flood insurance
			W23 Implement green infrastructure best management practices on municipal properties
			W23a >Build or retrofit paved surfaces with permeable materials
			W23b >Install and maintain bioswales, filter strips, trees, rain gardens, and other functional landscapes
			W24 Encourage residents and businesses to adopt green infrastructure practices
			W24a >Collaborate to provide rain barrels, plants and other resources to allow resident to capture and store rainwater
			W25 Encourage residents and businesses to reduce flood risks on their property
			W25a >Incentive overhead basement sewer conversion
			W25b >Encourage property owners to disconnect downspouts from sewers and direct flow to landscaping
			W26 Enhance natural features of stormwater detention and retention systems
			W27 Collaborate to enhance wetlands for improved ecosystem services
			W28 Collaborate with regional and state agencies to sustainably manage stormwater
			W+29 + Use USEPA Water Quality Scorecard to develop a systems approach to optimize stormwater
			W+30 + Establish a stormwater utility funding mechanism

Category		OBJECTIVE		
		> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
	GOAL			
WATER	Policy	<p><i>Enact policies to protect water resources</i></p>	W31	Conduct a water rate study to determine sustainable rate structure
			W32	Adopt full-cost pricing policies for water service
			W33	Amend code to require water efficiency and conservation in commercial and residential development
			W34	Incorporate conservation practices into new development guidelines and incentives
			W35	Adopt a water conservation policy and/or plan inclusive of all customers and municipal operations
			W35a	>Enact and enforce regulation to control of wasteful water practices
			W35b	>Enact and enforce outdoor watering regulations responsive to drought conditions
			W35c	>Regulate or incentive water efficiency for customers managing large landscapes
			W36	Update stormwater ordinance to integrate Illinois State Model Local Stormwater Ordinance
			W37	Adopt codes that enable rainwater harvesting for non-potable uses
			W38	Adopt a resolution supporting the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact
			W39	Review and adopt codes to eliminate barriers to green infrastructure BMPs including cisterns, green roofs, bioswales, permeable paving
			W40	Allow flexibility (off-site management, payment-in-lieu) to allow developments to meet stormwater management requirements sustainably
			W41	Enact codes that protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination

Category		OBJECTIVE		
		> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
	GOAL			
WATER	Stewardship	Practice stewardship of water resources	W42	Sustain supply of high-quality public water
			W43	Ensure drinking and wastewater systems are operating efficiently
			W44	Utilize treated effluent as a valuable water resource
			W45	Participate in watershed planning and stewardship efforts
			W46	Implement municipal recommendations from watershed plan
			W46	Allow public access and encourage stewardship of community waterways
			W48	Support regional and statewide water supply planning and stewardship
			W49	Contribute local data on water supply, quality and operations to support state and regional stewardship
			W+50	+ Enact a water offset policy for water neutral community growth
			Education and Outreach	Engage the community in water stewardship
	W52	Educate the community on the value of clean and safe drinking water		
	W53	Promote tap water over bottled water		
	W54	Educate the community on practices that reduce contamination of water resources		
	W55	Support private well-owners in water quality monitoring and stewardship		
	W56	Educate customers about public water supply and wastewater operations through media and events		
	W57	Educate the community on benefits and practices of green infrastructure		
	W58	Educate and support the community in preparing for and managing floods		
	W59	Collaborate to teach water conservation and stewardship in schools		
	W60	Collaborate to raise watershed awareness and foster stewardship		

GRC Category - Waste and Recycling

By the Numbers

Goals	5/5
Objectives	15/25
Strategies	4/9

Summary: The Village of Downers Grove is committed to an environmentally sensitive solid waste and recycling program. The comprehensive program includes curbside pickup of recyclable materials and the ability for residents to choose a recycling bin larger than their existing garbage container beginning in April of 2023. The Village also encourages proper disposal of electronics, household hazardous waste, engine oil and cooking oil by referring residents to partner organizations. By diverting waste from landfills, the Village is working to reduce environmental impacts.

GRC Goals

1. **Support sustainable material management** ◐
2. **Recycle materials across all sectors** ◐
3. **Divert waste from landfills** ●
4. **Enact policies that cause sustainable material management** ◐
5. **Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling** ●


Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
Encourage staff to recycle and provide recycling bins through Village facilities	WR2
Collect and dispose of waste engine oil from Village fleet and the public	WR2
Implement an online and digital building permit system to reduce paper use	WR3
Digitized historical Village documents	WR3
Discourage printing in Village facilities	WR3


Waste & Recycling

Zoning Ordinance allows for garage sales	WR5
Prepared public messaging to encourage furniture donation during Amnesty Day	WR5, WR22
Allow the public to exchange goods in the Police Station parking lot	WR5
Continued operation of pay-as-you-throw solid waste program	WR+6
Provide curbside residential recycling	WR10
Provide cart-swap program beginning in April of 2023	WR10
Provide recycling bins in the Downtown	WR11
Village code allows for on-site food-scrap composting	WR+12, WR18
Direct residents to properly dispose of household hazardous waste at the household hazardous waste facility in Naperville	WR13, WR13a
Support and promote the proper disposal of pharmaceutical waste	WR13, WR13b
Direct residents to properly dispose of used cooking oil at the Sanitary District	WR13, WR13c
Promote and support Holiday tree and pumpkin composting in collaboration with the Park District	WR14
Refer public inquiries to the Sanitary District's biosolid program	WR15
Operate a wood-chip and mulching pick up site	WR15
Contract with Republic Services to provide environmentally sensitive solid waste services	WR19
Conduct public messaging about paper recycling & proper composting	WR21
Prohibit public dumping , post "No Dumping" signs about public land locations	WR23
Participate in the annual DuPage River Sweep	WR24



Food composting

WASTE & RECYCLING	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE			
			> STRATEGY			
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY			
Waste Reduction	Support sustainable material management	WR1	Set a specific waste reduction goal:			
		WR1a	> Set a waste reduction goal for municipal operations			
		WR1b	> Set a waste reduction goal for the community			
		WR2	Promote and practice waste reduction & recycling in municipal operations			
		WR3	Reduce the use of paper in municipal offices			
		WR4	Conduct waste audits to identify waste reduction opportunities			
		WR5	Support exchange of goods and services among residents (i.e. Rummage Sale, Sporting Goods Swap)			
		WR+6	+ Adopt a Pay-As-You-Throw program			
		WR+7	Support by-product synergies among industries			
		WR+8	Make public events "zero waste"			
		Recycling	Recycle materials across all sectors	WR9	Establish and strive for specific recycling goals:	
				WR9a	> Establish and strive for a residential recycling goal	
WR9b	> Establish and strive for a multi-family recycling goal					
WR9c	> Establish and strive for a commercial & institutional recycling goal					
WR10	Provide curbside recycling for residents					
WR11	Provide access to recycling infrastructure and services at public places					
WR +12	Support regional efforts for developing a food scrap composting services					
Waste Diversion	Divert waste from landfills	WR13	Collaborate to Support proper disposal of:			
		WR13a	> Support proper disposal of household hazardous waste			
		WR13b	> Support proper disposal of pharmaceutical and personal care product waste			
		WR13c	> Support proper disposal of fats, oils and grease (FOGs)			
		WR13d	> Support proper disposal of electronic waste			
		WR14	Collaborate to provide recycling service for items not suitable for curbside pickup e.g. clothing, shoes, Christmas			
		WR15	Facilitate biosolid re-use in the community (e.g. landscaping)			

WASTE & RECYCLING	Category			OBJECTIVE	
		GOAL		> STRATEGY	
				+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
Policy	Enact policies that cause sustainable material management	WR16	Require commercial & multi-family recycling		
		WR17	Establish a construction & demolition recycling policy		
		WR18	Eliminate policy barriers to on-site composting		
		WR19	Engage with Solid Waste agencies to manage waste sustainably		
		WR20	Ban or discourage the use of products resulting in unmanageable waste (e.g. plastic bags)		
Education & Engagement	Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling	WR21	Educate the community on recycling and composting practices		
		WR22	Educate the community to reduce waste by consuming less and reusing		
		WR23	Discourage fly dumping and littering		
		WR24	Organize a community wide clean-up day		
		WR25	Engage community volunteers in recycling education and events		

GRC Category - Municipal Operations

By the Numbers

Goals	4/4
Objectives	10/17
Strategies	4/14

Summary: The Village of Downers Grove has taken a number of steps to reduce the environmental impact of every-day municipal operations, such as installing energy-efficient lighting and equipment, utilizing renewable energy sources, and reducing paper usage through the implementation of paperless permitting systems.

GRC Goals


1. **Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices** 🏠
2. **Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations** ●
3. **Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet** 🚗
4. **Collect and manage data to advance sustainability** 📊

Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
Obtained grants to purchase flood-prone properties	MO3
Obtained a ComEd grant for Belmont Pollinator Garden and the rain garden at Public Works	MO3
Obtained a DuPage County water quality grant for the Mochel Drive Water Quality project	MO3
Obtained an IEPA grant and DuPage County grant for St. Joseph's South Creek restoration project	MO3
Village Stormwater Administrator trains staff on sustainability practices for managing stormwater system	MO4
Plow operators are trained on sustainable snow control techniques	MO4
School District 58 administrative offices will be housed in new Civic Center	MO+7

Municipal Operations

Building	
Village is a member of DUCOMM for regional dispatching services	MO+7
Village is a member of DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup , which performs regional projects to improve water quality	MO+7
Village partners with School District 58 and Downers Grove Sanitary District on paving parking lots and sidewalks	MO+7
Village partners with the Park District and Forest Preserve District to maintain the wetland bank at 40th & Glendenning and Lyman Woods	MO+7
Village partners with Park District for the maintenance of Barth Pond and Prince Pond (Village recently dredged both ponds)	MO+7
The Park District mows the grass on Village-owned properties on Lee Avenue south of Ogden	MO+7
Purchasing policy includes a preference for recycled and environmentally sustainable products	MO9
Extended the useful life of Village Hall and the Police Station	MO10
Extend the useful life of water towers by maintenance and rehabilitation projects	MO10
Maximized useful life of streets with preventative maintenance and resurfacing projects	MO10
Maximize the useful life of sidewalks by performing maintenance and delaying replacement until necessary	MO10
Converted many difficult to maintain roadside ditches into bioswales	MO+12
Construct naturalized stormwater basin projects (2nd & Cumnor, Burlington Highlands, etc.)	MO+12
Completed naturalized streambank stabilization projects (St. Joseph's Creek)	MO+12
Utilize GIS-based asset management system to maximize useful life of assets	MO+13
Right-sized the vehicles in the Village Fleet	MO14, MO14B
Educated Village employees on impacts of idling and provide anti-idling training	MO14, MO14C
Converted police, public works and community development vehicles from gasoline to natural gas	MO14, MO14D, MO3
Operate a compressed natural gas fueling station in partnership with the City of Chicago and the USDoe	MO14, MO14D, MO3, MO17
Efficiently manage asset and water use with SCADA, fleet management software, and Watersmart	MO+10

Category		OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
	GOAL		
MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS	<i>Lead by Example</i> <i>Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices</i>	MO1	Support or create an interdisciplinary team to coordinate internal sustainability efforts
		MO2	Dedicate staff to direct sustainability initiatives
		MO3	Leverage state/federal and private grants and resources to advance sustainability
		MO4	Educate and train staff on sustainability practices
		MO5	Achieve third party certification for sustainable public facilities
		MO5a	>Achieve LEED or Green Globes certification for public buildings
		MO5b	>Achieve Sustainable Sites Certification for public landscapes
		MO5c	>Achieve ENVISION certification for public infrastructure
		MO6	Formalize sustainability goals and plans
		MO6a	>Adopt the Greenest Region Compact
		MO6b	>Use the GRC Framework to create a sustainability plan and formally adopt it
		MO+7	Consolidate and/or share the delivery of public services with other local governments
		MO+8	+ Establish municipal finance practices to re-invest cost savings into sustainability initiatives
		Sustainable Operations	<i>Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations</i>
MO10	Extend useful life of physical assets		
MO11	Manage special events sustainably		
MO+12	Integrate sustainability into capital planning		
MO+13	Inventory, assess and manage municipal assets sustainably		

Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS	Municipal Fleet <i>Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet</i>	MO14	Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet
		MO14a	>Conduct baseline fleet analysis
		MO14b	>Optimize fleet performance by reconciling tasks and vehicle types
		MO14c	>Increase fleet efficiency through driver education and training
		MO14d	>Modify and retrofit vehicles to use alternate fuels
		MO14d	> Migrate fleet to alternate fuel vehicles
		MO15	>Certify as an IEPA Illinois Green Fleet
		MO15	>Join Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition and report reduction of petroleum fuel consumption annually
		MO+17	+ Collaborate with businesses, industry leaders and other agencies to develop alternative fuel infrastructure
		Data Management	<i>Collect and manage data to advance sustainability</i>
MO18a	>Establish performance metrics		
MO18b	>Collect and organize data		
MO18c	>Report and share data		
MO18d	>Continue to track and monitor data over time		
MO+10	+ Use 'smart' technology to efficiently manage waste, water, fleet, air and energy data		

GRC Category - Mobility

By the Numbers

Goals	5/5
Objectives	26/39
Strategies	0/2

Summary: The Village of Downers Grove is committed to providing a sustainable transportation system that prioritizes the safety, accessibility, and efficiency of all modes of transportation, including walking, biking, transit, and driving. By taking a multi-modal approach to transportation, the Village is striving to create a more livable, vibrant, and sustainable community for its residents and visitors.

GRC Goals	
1.	Support safe and effective active transportation 🌙
2.	Maintain a diverse, safe and efficient transportation network 🌙
3.	Support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely 🌙
4.	Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs and regulations 🌙
5.	Promote public and sustainable transportation choice 🌙

Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
Identified gaps in the sidewalk system as part of a multi-year sidewalk capital improvement plan	M1
The Transportation Plan chapter of the Comprehensive Plan Identifies pedestrian and bicycle barriers	M1
The Comprehensive Plan identifies potential bicycle and pedestrian paths based on the 2013 Bike & Pedestrian Plan (pg. 62)	M2
Implemented 14 of the 22 recommendations in the 2013 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan	M3


Mobility


Entered into an intergovernmental agreement with DuPage County for the construction of a bike path on 31st St.	M4
Collaborating with Lombard and Oak Brook and CMAP to develop an active transportation system along Butterfield accessible to bikes	M4, M11
Installed bicycle parking racks at Village Hall, Downtown, all three commuter train stations, and the parking deck	M5
Partnered with the Downers Grove Bicycle club to Install a bicycle repair station in the Downtown	M5
The Zoning Ordinance requires commercial developments to install bicycle parking	M5, M28
The annual sidewalk rehabilitation program maximizes the lifespan of sidewalk pavement (removes height displacements from existing sidewalk squares)	M6
Maintain efficient traffic flow within and around the community	M7
Employ a full time professional transportation manager	M7
Conduct neighborhood traffic studies through the Village to maintain efficient and safe traffic flow (8 studies completed)	M7
The series of traffic signals along Main St. and Fairview are synchronized to reduce vehicle idling	M8
Completed full-depth reclamation when reconstructing the streets in Downers Grove Estates and Clyde Estate	M9, M13, M25
Installed native plantings at Claremont, Prairie, and streets in Clyde Estate and Downers Grove Estates	M9, M13
Community Investment Program (CIP) proactively plans for major transportation infrastructure improvements	M9
Collaborated with ICC, DuPage County, BNSF, Metra, and the State of IL to construct the Belmont Underpass	M11
Constructed the Compressed Natural Gas Station at Public Works in collaboration with the City of Chicago and the US Dept. of Energy	M12, M17
Sell compressed natural-gas (CNG) to other local governments and commercial entities	M12, M17
Civic Center Project will provide electric vehicle charging stations	M12
Operate a roadside Bioswale program	M13
Installed native plants at Claremont, Prairie and in the streets at Downers Grove Estates and Clyde Estates	M13
Manage the municipal parking system in partnership with Metra and the BNSF in support of the commuter rail system	M16, M29, M35
Supported the installation of Metra pay stations at all three train stations	M16, M29, M35
Partner with state and federal government to finance road improvements (participate in state and federal grant programs: Main , Maple , Dunham , Fairview , Finley)	M20
Ensure all DuPage County transportation impact fees are paid before release of	M20

commercial permits	
Manage parking supply efficiently by allowing shared parking by multiple user groups	M21
Zoning ordinance includes a maximum parking space regulation	M21
Participate in Safe Routes to School Program (approved a resolution in support of the program) and created designated safe routes to school	M22
Village has an anti-idling policy	M23
Use recycled asphalt for street resurfacing and reconstruction projects	M25
Building code and zoning ordinance allow for electric vehicle charging stations	M26
The Zoning Ordinance allows for a reduction in the number of parking spaces with installation of electric charging stations	M26
Subdivision Code requires the construction of sidewalks	M28
Maintain buildings at three train stations and Belmont Underpass	M29
Main Street and Fairview train stations are Historic Landmarks which the Village actively maintains and preserves	M29
Offer reverse commuter permit parking in Downtown	M32, M35
Promote use of the PACE Vanpool	M32, M35
Encourage municipal employees to use alternative modes of transportation to commute to work	M33
Publish short-form videos encouraging residents to walk and bike (see page 6)	M34
Improve pedestrian facilities at all signals in the Downtown in 2023	M34



Recently Constructed Pedestrian Crosswalk on Prairie Avenue

Category				OBJECTIVE	
				> STRATEGY	
				+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
GOAL					
MOBILITY	Bike and Pedestrian	Support safe and effective active transportation	M1	Identify gaps in pedestrian and the bicycle networks and barriers to active modes of travel	
			M2	Create a bicycle and pedestrian plan to improve connectivity in the community and beyond	
			M3	Implement recommendations from the bicycle and pedestrian plan	
			M3a	>Earn Bicycle Friendly Community designation	
			M3b	>Earn Walk Friendly Community designation	
			M4	Collaborate with regional partners to connect on-and off-road bicycle facilities with existing and planned regional trail networks	
	M5	Provide bicycle parking at municipal facilities, business districts and transit stations and in neighborhoods			
	Transportation Infrastructure	Maintain a diverse, safe and efficient transportation network	M6	Maintain streets and sidewalks for efficiency and safety without harming natural resources	
			M7	Maintain efficient traffic flow within and around the community	
			M8	Synchronize traffic signals to reduce vehicle idling	
			M9	Incorporate sustainable roadways into capital improvement planning, proactively plan for major transportation infrastructure improvements	
			M10	Collaborate to develop transportation infrastructure with context sensitivity	
			M11	Coordinate with regional transportation agencies to maximize bicycle, pedestrian, vehicular transit, and rail connectivity and mobility	
			M12	Collaborate to provide alternative fuel infrastructure at public sites	
M13			Incorporate trees and other green infrastructure elements into roadway design and maintenance for functionality and aesthetics		
M+14	+ Use the Envision checklist and infrastructure sustainability rating system to guide project development				

MOBILITY	Category				
		GOAL	OBJECTIVE		
			> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY			
MOBILITY	Stewardship	Support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely	M15	Support regional transportation innovation	
			M16	Support coordinated investment to improve efficiency in passenger and freight railroads	
			M17	Collaborate to support a network of alternate fueling infrastructure	
			M18	Advocate for broad adoption of clean fuel fleets (i.e utilities, businesses, other agencies etc.)	
			M19	Support strong national fuel efficiency standards	
			M20	Seek both public and private partnership to finance transportation system improvements	
			M21	Strategically manage parking policies and priorities to advance sustainability	
			M22	Create Safe Routes to School	
	Policy	Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs and regulations	M23	Enact and enforce anti-idling policies for public fleet vehicles	
			M24	Designate no idling zones at schools, transit stations etc.	
			M25	Adapt engineering standards to incorporate sustainable practices into roadway construction and maintenance while assuring public safety	
			M26	Adapt building codes to accommodate and encourage alternate fuel infrastructure	
			M27	Adopt a Complete Streets policy to benefit all road users	
			M28	Revise subdivision code to promote active transportation, i.e., street sanctions that require bicycle facilities and sidewalks	
	Shared-use Mobility	Promote public and sustainable transportation choices	M29	Collaborate to maintain and enhance transit facilities	
			M30	Collaborate to expand regional transit capacity and improve service	
			M31	Expand local transit connections to meet identified needs	
			M32	Collaborate to provide multi-modal transportation options to resolve the first and last mile barrier	
			M33	Encourage municipal employees to use alternative modes of transportation to commute to work	
	MOBILITY	Education & Outreach	Promote public and sustainable transportation choices	M34	Encourage residents and visitors to walk and bike
				M35	Promote the availability of regional transit options
				M36	Collaborate with the community's largest employers to offer flex scheduling, telecommuting, public and active transportation
M37				Educate the community on the negative impacts of car idling	
M38				Advocate for mass transit funding	
M39				Encourage active transportation and community building in an open streets event	

GRC Category - Energy

By the Numbers

Goals	5/5
Objectives	11/33
Strategies	1/4

Summary: The Village of Downers Grove is committed to the use of energy efficient practices in its municipal buildings. This includes implementing energy-saving measures such as LED lighting, efficient HVAC systems, solar panels and smart building controls.

GRC Goals


1. Use energy for buildings and facilities efficiently ◀
2. Advance renewable energy ◀
3. Reduce energy consumption ◀
4. Enact policies that support clean energy ◀
5. Engage the community in clean energy practices ▲


Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
Occupancy sensors have been installed at PW, PD, VH and Fire Station 2	E5
Energy efficient lighting has been installed in all municipal buildings	E5
Collaborate with Com-Ed to upgrade street lights to LED	E7
Solar panels have been installed at nine municipal buildings	E6, E12
The Civic Center project includes solar panels and other energy efficiency measures	E6, E12
Completed energy efficiency upgrades at Fire Station 3 by replacing the existing HVAC system with high-efficiency equipment	E+11
Development related codes allow for geothermal, solar and wind power generation	E13, E13a, E25
Staff powers down equipment when possible	E18
Public Works employee maintains Building Operator Certification	E21
Adopted current Illinois Energy Conservation Code	E24

Promoted Com-Ed Smart Meter installation	E30
Publish short-form video promoting solar energy in Downers Grove	E30



Solar panels on the Public Works building

Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
ENERGY Energy Efficiency	<i>Use energy for building and facilities efficiently</i>	E1	> Conduct energy audits of municipal facilities
		E2	Support energy audits and retro-commissioning studies of residential, commercial and institutional facilities
		E3	> Conduct retro-commissioning studies to optimize public facility performance
		E4	> Implement operational changes recommended in the retro commissioning study
		E5	Implement energy efficiency measures that have a short-term payback (i.e. lighting, occupancy sensors)
		E6	Implement energy efficiency measures that have a longer-term payback
		E7	Collaborate with utilities and other agencies to upgrade streetlight equipment and integrate smart technologies
		E8	Achieve ENERGY STAR certification for municipal buildings
		E+9	+ Utilize performance contracts to finance large energy efficiency projects
		E+10	+ Demonstrate extreme energy efficiency with a model Passivhaus building
		E+11	+ Budget and plan for long-term energy efficiency equipment upgrades
Renewable Energy	<i>Advance renewable energy</i>	E12	Install and operate renewable energy systems at municipal facilities
		E12a	> Use power purchase agreements, leasing and other strategies to finance renewable energy systems
		E13	Support the adoption of renewable energy technologies in the community
		E13a	> Adopt codes and permitting practices that support renewable energy systems in the community
		E13b	> Facilitate access to renewable energy systems through collaborative purchasing for residents and business
		E14	Procure renewable energy for public facilities
		E14a	> Become a US EPA Green Power Community
		E15	Support procurement of renewable energy through community choice aggregation
		E16	Develop renewable energy capacity targeting underutilized public properties (i.e. brownfields)
		E+17	+ Collaborate to provide access to community solar

Category		OBJECTIVE		
		> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
GOAL				
ENERGY	Energy Management	<i>Reduce energy consumption</i>	E18	Power down equipment when possible
			E19	Participate in demand response programs
			E20	Track and benchmark energy consumption through ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager
			E21	Utilize energy management expertise (i.e. Building Operator Certification and Certified Energy Manager)
			E22	Participate in energy management challenges and programs
			E+23	+ Utilize performance contracts to finance energy efficiency projects when feasible
ENERGY	Policy	<i>Enact policies that support clean energy</i>	E24	Adopt current Illinois Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and report compliance
			E25	Facilitate the adoption of renewable energy technologies (i.e. solar, geothermal) by adapting building and zoning codes
			E+26	+ Collaborate to advance Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) policies
			E+27	+ Adopt 'stretch codes' setting higher standards for energy efficiency than IECC
			E+28	+ Enact an ordinance requiring periodic benchmarking for large energy users
			E+29	+ Negotiate franchise agreement with utilities to exercise lump sum payment option to finance clean energy
ENERGY	Education & Outreach	<i>Engage the community in clean energy practices</i>	E30	Partner with electric and gas utilities to promote energy efficiency programs to the community
			E31	Promote the use of ENERGY STAR certified appliances and equipment
			E32	Publicly recognize institutional and private buildings that achieve a specific energy efficiency targets
			E33	Collaborate to educate the community about clean energy options

GRC Category - Sustainable Communities

By the Numbers

Goals	6/7
Objectives	23/54
Strategies	0/6

Summary: The Village of Downers Grove is committed to fostering a sustainable community that promotes cultural vibrancy, health, safety, and wellness, and community principles that are welcoming, inclusive, and equitable. The Village's commitment to sustainability recognizes the value of creating a sustainable future for all Downers Grove residents.

GRC Goals	
1.	Promote cultural vibrancy in the community 🌱
2.	Foster a culture of health, safety, and wellness 🌱
3.	Increase access to sustainably grown local food 🌱
4.	Sustain community principles that are welcoming, inclusive and equitable ●
5.	Promote a sustainable identity for the community ○
6.	Assure local policies and codes support sustainability ▲
7.	Cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability 🌱


Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
Operate a Historic Landmark Program which has approved 30 landmarks	SC1
Partner with the Historical Society to operate tours and events at the historic Main Street cemetery	SC2
Partner with YMCA to operate a Downtown Market at the historic Main St. Train Station	SC2, SC17
Village hosts the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony and Coffee with the Council at the historic Main St. Train Station	SC2
Proclamation for Arts DuPage Month in October of 2022	SC3

Sustainable Communities


Village has Downtown Design Guidelines	SC6
Village partnered with the Municipal Design Review Network to provide a tour of the downtown	SC6
Produce brochures in partnership with the Historical Society on the Sears Home tour, guide to architectural styles and Downtown Walking Tour brochures	SC6
Partner with Dupage County to prepare a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan	SC8
Prepare and maintain an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) in cooperation with Dupage County Office of Emergency Management and the Local Emergency Managers Conference	SC8
Publish short-form videos encouraging residents to create a disaster plan and disaster preparedness kits	SC8
Certified Storm-Ready community	SC8
Village staff fully-participates in the National Incident Management System (NIMS)	SC8
Village operates a social services referral program	SC9, SC10
Collaborated with federal, state and county agencies to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic	SC11
Mitigate emerald ash borer effects on ash trees	SC11
Partner with DuPage County on West Nile Virus mitigation efforts	SC11
Operate a mosquito abatement program	SC11
Produce short-form videos encouraging residents to properly use 9-1-1 system	SC+14
Operate a child car-seat safety program	SC+14
Operate the Safety Town program in partnership with the Park District	SC+14
Provide safety suggestions for trick or treating	SC+14
Produced a short-form video encouraging safe bicycling practices	SC+14
Produced a short-form video demonstrating proper fire extinguisher use	SC+14
Produced a short-form video demonstrating proper cooking techniques	SC+14
Partner with District 58 and District 99 on police and fire public education and school lockdown drills	SC+14
Police staff provide active threat training to businesses and community upon request	SC+14
Village conducts annual fire safety inspections of commercial and institutional buildings	SC+14
Operate a Taxi Coupon program providing subsidized taxi rides to seniors and people with disabilities	SC+15
Comprehensive Plan recommends providing housing opportunities for people to age in place	SC+15, SC23
Pledged Village private activity bonding authority for the supportive living facility on Lacey Road	SC+15
Zoning Ordinance allows community gardens	SC18

Sustainable Communities

Mayoral proclamations for MLK Day , Pride Month and Civil Rights Week	SC21, SC22
Signed onto Illinois Chiefs 10 Shared Principles in cooperation with the NAACP	SC22
Police Department conducts bias training with all staff	SC22
All Village staff underwent diversity, equity and inclusion training in 2022	SC22
Provide public services and resources equitably in the community	SC24
Building code and zoning ordinance allow for electric vehicle charging stations	SC31
Development related codes allow for geothermal, solar and wind power generation	SC31
Subdivision Code requires the construction of sidewalks	SC31
The Zoning Ordinance requires pedestrian connections from front door to public sidewalks	SC31
The stormwater regulations result in the installation of rains gardens on most new developments and redevelopments	SC31
Village has produced numerous videos regarding sustainability initiatives (see page 6)	SC35
Stormwater administrator made presentations on the Bioswale program to American Public Works Association (APWA), Conservation Foundation and Lake County	SC37
Staff and the Human Service Commission will operate an information booth at community events	SC37
Partner with Conservation Foundation to sell native plants and rain barrels	SC38, SC43, SC44
Encourage participation in native plant sale , rain barrel sale , adopt a highway and annual DuPage River Sweep	SC45
Green Business Recognition Program	SC54

				OBJECTIVE		
				> STRATEGY		
		Category	GOAL			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	Arts and Culture	<i>Promote cultural vibrancy in the community</i>	SC1	Preserve and maintain the community's historic assets		
			SC2	Integrate historical and cultural assets through community programming		
			SC3	Formalize support for culture and the arts		
			SC4	Engage community volunteers through an arts/culture-oriented citizen advisory group		
			SC5	Foster understanding of diverse cultural traditions		
			SC6	Promote beauty and livability in community design, stewardship, and through partnerships		
	Health & Safety	<i>Foster a culture of health, safety and wellness</i>	SC7	Protect all residents from the effects of pollution		
			SC8	Create a community that is resilient and well-prepared for disaster		
			SC9	Connect community members to existing services that support health and wellness		
			SC10	Ensure high quality essential human services programs are available and utilized		
			SC11	Collaborate with state and federal partners to prepare for and respond to pest and disease threats to public health		
			SC12	Collaborate to offer active and healthy lifestyle programs to residents		
			SC+13	+ Support balanced, active play for families		
			SC+13a	> Become recognized as a Playful City USA		
			SC+14	+ Prioritize safe practices and collaborate to reduce accidental injuries and death		
SC+14a	> Become certified as a Safe Community					
	SC+15	+ Integrate planning, policies and programs to accommodate residents of all ages and abilities				

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
			Code	Description
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	Local Food	<i>Increase access to sustainably grown local food</i>	SC16	Educate and engage the community in a sustainable food culture
			SC17	Incorporate local and healthy options into public food-service procurement and events
			SC18	Support and promote family and community gardens
			SC+19	+ Analyze and assess the current food system
			SC+20	+ Support innovative technologies for food production and distribution
	Social Justice	<i>Sustain community principles that are welcoming, inclusive and equitable</i>	SC21	Cultivate and preserve a welcoming and inclusive community character
			SC22	Support social justice and equity throughout the community
			SC23	Promote diversity of housing stock accessible to diverse residents
			SC24	Distribute public services and resources equitably in the community
	Sustainable Community	<i>Promote a sustainable identity for the community</i>	SC25	Promote third party certification for sustainable private facilities
			SC25a	>Promote green certification for private buildings
			SC25b	>Promote ENVISION certification for private infrastructure
			SC26	Develop and maintain a community brand that highlights sustainability
			SC26a	>Participate in the Green Office Challenge
			SC+27	+ Assess sustainability achievements relative to comparable cities
			SC27a	>Participate in the STAR Community Rating System
			SC28	Incentivize green building in new construction and re-construction
	Policy	<i>Assure local policies and codes support sustainability</i>	SC29	Identify existing Code impediments sustainable building and site best practices
			SC30	Develop housing policies, programs, and regulations designed to support and promote sustainability
			SC31	Revise and/or develop codes to promote sustainable building and site practices
			SC32	Enact policies to preserve dark skies
			SC+33	+ Incentivize green building in new construction and re-construction
			SC+34	+ Require third-party green building certification for appropriate new construction

			
		Category	OBJECTIVE
		GOAL	> STRATEGY
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	Education	Cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability	SC35 Educate the community about sustainability initiatives using existing municipal communication outlets (i.e., cable TV, newsletters)
			SC36 Assure community education messages are accessible in all languages and formats
			SC37 Use community festivals, lectures, workshops and other events to share information about sustainability
			SC38 Distribute sustainability information and resources provided by other allied organizations and government agencies
			SC39 Collaborate to incorporate sustainability into school curricula
			SC40 Collaborate to assure equitable access to quality education in the community
			SC+41 + Formalize an environmental education strategy
			SC+42 + Develop/ distribute a green building manual
			SC43 Utilize strategic partnerships with other community organizations to promote sustainability
			SC44 Participate in regional and national sustainability networks
	Outreach and Engagement	Cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability	SC45 Encourage the community to participate in sustainability initiatives and events
			SC46 Establish or strengthen an inter and intra/agency Green Team
			SC47 Engage residents in sustainability initiatives through an environmentally-focused citizen advisory group
			SC48 Foster positive communication and collaboration among local and regional institutions
			SC49 Reach out and remove barriers to include all residents in civic affairs
			SC50 Host environmentally focused event(s)
			SC51 Encourage residents and businesses to contribute their time and resources to sustain the community
			SC52 Promote green building practices to residents, businesses and developers
			SC+53 Create an award or recognition program to encourage and report sustainable behaviors for residents at home
			SC+54 Create an award or recognition program to encourage and report sustainable actions by local businesses

GRC Category - Economic Development

By the Numbers

Goals	2/2
Objectives	6/12
Strategies	-

Summary: The Village of Downers Grove along with the Downers Grove Economic Development Corporation is committed to promoting economic development that benefits both its residents and the local economy. By taking a comprehensive approach to economic development, the Village of Downers Grove is working to create a thriving and sustainable local economy that supports its residents and businesses, while preserving its natural and cultural heritage.

GRC Goals

1. **Promote innovation and a competitive workforce** ▲
2. **Cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses** ●

Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
Encourage residents to shop locally with the Shop Local Campaign	ED8, ED11
Encourage residents to shop at locally owned businesses by promoting Small Business Saturday	ED11
Recognize Village business making efforts to be more sustainable with the Green Business Recognition Program	ED4, ED7
Collaborate with Downers Grove Visitors Bureau to promote Lyman Woods & Belmont Golf Course	ED10
Collaborate with the Downers Grove Historical Society to promote historical sites	ED10
Develop local economy by pursuing sales tax rebate agreements and redevelopment agreements	E11, E12
Created and implemented tax-increment finance districts to promote the revitalization of the Downtown and of Ogden Ave	E11, E12

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
Workforce Development	<i>Promote innovation and a competitive workforce</i>	ED1	Connect local businesses with education training, and jobs related to sustainability	
		ED2	Advocate for the development of a competitive 'green workforce'	
		ED3	Advocate for new opportunities in the clean energy industry	
Innovation	<i>Promote innovation and a competitive workforce</i>	ED4	Encourage green innovation among residents and local businesses	
		ED5	Collaborate to support innovation centers	
Green Economy	<i>Cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses</i>	ED6	Attract and retain businesses that practice and promote sustainability	
		ED7	Recognize and support businesses who practice and promote sustainability	
		ED8	Promote local goods and services	
		ED9	Create and promote a community brand featuring natural resources or cultural characteristics of community	
		ED10	Promote tourism featuring natural and cultural assets of the community	
Policy	<i>Cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses</i>	ED11	Promote the economic prosperity of the community	
		ED12	Advocate for expanded job opportunities and sufficient wages	

GRC Category - Climate

By the Numbers

Goals	3/4
Objectives	7/18
Strategies	1/4

Summary: The Village of Downers Grove takes steps to prepare to respond to conditions and disasters that may be exacerbated by climate change in the coming years. The Village works with a variety of partners to ensure the best possible response to a changing climate.


GRC Goals	
1.	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions ○
2.	Maintain clean and healthful air ●
3.	Develop resilience to climate change impacts ●
4.	Engage the community in climate change mitigation and adaptation ●

Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
Village Code prohibits burning of landscape waste	C6
Village does not use coal-tar sealants pursuant to a memorandum of understanding	C10
Partner with Dupage County to prepare a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan	C12, C12a, C14, C15
Participate in DuPage County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (OHSEM)	C12, C12a, C14, C15
Collaborator on preparation of Good Samaritan's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan	C12, C12a, C14, C15
Emergency Operations Plan includes chapters on responding to specific natural disasters that impact the Village such as extreme heat, cold, floods	C14, C15
Emergency Operations Plan includes chapters on responding to man-made disasters such as chemical spills and train derailments	C14, C15
Zoning Ordinance requires a minimum amount of green-space	C13

Zoning Ordinance contains landscape requirements for parking lots	C13
Maintain the public tree system in a sustainable manner (see Urban Forestry and Municipal Landscape Manual)	C13
Publish web pages and social media posts containing information about air quality and air pollution action days	C18



Friendship Park in Downtown Downers Grove

A	B	C	D	E	
CLIMATE	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE		
			> STRATEGY		
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	C1	Establish a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction target:	
			C1a	>Utilize US EPA's Local Climate Action Framework to plan and evaluate climate strategies	
			C2	Measure and monitor GHG emissions	
			C2a	>Measure and monitor GHG from municipal operations	
			C2b	>Measure and monitor GHG community wide	
			C+3	+ Verify and report climate action to Carbonn Climate Registry	
			C+4	+ Participate in carbon offset program	
			C+5	+ Commit to the Compact of Mayors	
	Air Quality	Maintain clean and healthful air	C6	Regulate burning of landscape waste	
			C7	Facilitate compliance of federal air quality standards by businesses	
			C8	Participate in Illinois Partners for Clean Air	
			C9	Discourage the use of high-emitting small engines, such as for landscaping	
			C10	Reduce volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions for municipal operations by using low VOC cleaners, paints, and paving practices	
			C11	Establish policies to meet Illinois Dept of Public Health Indoor Air quality standards	
	Resiliency	Develop resiliency to climate change impacts	C12	Coordinate resiliency efforts with federal, state and regional planning agencies	
C12a			>Prepare Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan		
C13			Collaboratively manage urban heat islands		
C+14			+ Assess infrastructure and public safety threats from extreme weather events		
C+15			+ Develop a resiliency plan to protect assets, public health, and provide essential services through natural and man-made disasters		
Education & Outreach	Engage the community in climate change mitigation and adaptation	C16	Educate the public about climate change		
		C17	Participate in Cool Communities		
		C18	Inform the community about air quality index and air pollution action days		

GRC Category - Leadership

By the Numbers

Goals	2/3
Objectives	6/11
Strategies	-

Summary: The Village of Downers Grove is a leader in promoting sustainable practices and environmental responsibility. This includes setting a strong example through its own operations and promoting sustainable practices in the community. Additionally, the Village collaborates with regional and state partners to advance sustainable policies and initiatives that benefit the environment and local community. Through its leadership role in promoting sustainability, the Village of Downers Grove is helping to create a more livable and environmentally responsible community, while setting a positive example.

GRC Goals


1. **Enlist support for GRC2 goals through regional, state and national leadership** ●
2. **Advocate for policies that align with and advance the GRC2** ○
3. **Work collaboratively towards a sustainable region** ●

Village Actions and Efforts	GRC Items Supported
Prepare and submit an annual water loss report to IDNR	L3
Stormwater administrator makes presentations on Village Bioswale program to APWA, Conservation Foundation and Lake County	L4
Village publishes numerous short-form videos about Village sustainability efforts (see page 6)	L4
Village has won multiple recognitions from APWA, ASEE, and Tree City USA	L5
Village sells compressed natural-gas (CNG) to other local governments and private sector entities	L9

Partner with DCSCWG & NPEDS programs to improve water and soil quality	L10
Apply for and use grants from ILEPA for St. Joseph's Creek project	L10
Collaborate with Conservation Foundation on native plant sale , rain barrel sale , Conservation@Home program and St. Joseph's Creek project	L11



Chicago Area Clean Cities Leader Award


Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
LEADERSHIP	Leadership <i>Enlist support for GRC2 goals through regional, state and national leadership</i>	L1	Engage with academia and non-governmental organization to support the GRC2
		L2	Engage with state and national municipal associations to align actions with GRC2
		L3	Report local and regional environmental data to advance national and international collaborative efforts (e.g., GHG reporting, water supply planning)
		L4	Share information about municipal leadership in sustainability broadly in the community and externally
		L5	Seek recognition for community sustainability achievements
	Advocacy <i>Advocate for policies that align with and advance the GRC2</i>	L6	Advocate for state policies and investment that support municipal advances in sustainability
		L7	Advocate for federal policies and investment that support municipal advances in sustainability
		L8	Seek collaboration with the business sector to support municipal sustainability, (e.g., product stewardship)
	Collaboration <i>Work collaboratively towards a sustainable region</i>	L9	Partner with other local governments to achieve efficiency and sustainability
		L10	Participate with regional, state and federal initiatives to plan and achieve sustainability
		L11	Partner with non-governmental organization to advance sustainability in the community and regionally


Appendix: Annotated GRC Framework Worksheet





**Greenest
Region
Compact**


COLLABORATING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES


Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
LAND	Sustainable Development <i>Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles</i>	L1	Reduce sprawl by promoting infill development to reduce adverse impacts on natural resources and infrastructure demands
		L1a	>Encourage the development of compact and complete residential neighborhoods
		L1b	>Protect greenfields and open space
		L1c	>Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties
		L2	Prioritize redevelopment projects and infrastructure investment for transit-served locations
		L2a	>Pursue transit oriented development and transit-supportive land uses in new development
		L2b	>Seek public-private partnerships to create transit-oriented developments
		L3	Collaborate with neighboring communities to jointly create sustainable developments
		L4	Encourage conservation design to protect natural resources
		L5	Promote Sustainable Sites Certification for commercial and institutional landscapes
		L6	Integrate resiliency into land development decisions
		L7	Support local food production by assuring access to affordable land
		L8	Evaluate proposed developments for on groundwater levels and water quality.


Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE
		> STRATEGY
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY
LAND Land Preservation	<i>Conserve restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems</i>	L9 Using data such as the Green Infrastructure Vision and the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory, watershed plans, identify key natural assets, landscape features, parcels with high value for connectivity and ecosystem function
		L10 Conserve key natural assets and open space
		L10a >Through direct acquisition and management
		L10b >Through collaborations and cooperative agreements such as conservation easements
		L11 Guide future development to conserve natural topography, views, drainage patterns, existing vegetation, and historic or cultural assets
		L12 Prioritize the acquisition, dedication and management of lands to create connected greenways
		L13 Prioritize the acquisition of land to protect groundwater recharge areas
		L14 Manage public and private landscapes to optimize ecosystem services and support biodiversity
		L14a >Collaborate to restore prairie, wetland, forest and other important ecosystems in the community
		L14b >Monitor and control invasive species in natural areas and throughout the community
		L14c >Ensure long-term maintenance and management of protected natural areas within Conservation Design development
		L15 Protect and restore soil integrity
		L15a >Enforce soil erosion and sediment control regulations for construction sites

Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
LAND Parks & Open Space	<i>Support networks of accessible, well-used and enjoyable parks</i>	L16	Develop a park and open space master plan
		L17	Maximize the amount of public spaces and parks accessible to residents
		L17a	>Collaborate to provide access to under-utilized land (i.e. utility right of ways) for trails, community gardens, and sustainable landscapes
		L17b	>Optimize linkages between parks and open spaces
		L17c	>Work with developers to integrate and develop open space reserves and trails in developments
		L17d	>Collaborate with private property owners to create vibrant public gathering spaces (placemaking)
		L18	Enhance parks, open space, and recreational opportunities accessible to all residents
		L18a	>Collaborate with park and forest preserve districts
		L18b	>Collaborate to create and maintain hiking, biking, canoe and other recreational trails
		L18c	>Collaborate to provide accessible recreational services involving parks and open space
		L19	Foster healthy community relationships through the use of open space


Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE		
		> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
LAND	Urban Forestry	Sustain a robust urban forest canopy	L20	Conduct a community wide urban tree canopy assessment or collaborate on a regional study
			L21	Conduct an inventory and assessment of trees on public right of ways
			L22	Develop and implement a management plan to assure a long term vitality of the urban forest
			L23	Maintain the health and integrity of existing trees
			L23a	>Maintain the health of trees on public right of ways
			L23b	>Collaborate with utilities to maintain trees compatible with overhead powerlines
			L23c	>Practice integrated pest management to sustain urban forest health
			L23d	>Assess structural integrity of trees and proactively mitigate risks through strategic removal and other actions
			L24	Plant trees to sustain and renew the urban forest
			L24a	>Continually plant hardy, site-appropriate trees to meet tree canopy goals
			L24b	>Engage resident in public stewardship through cost-share planting programs
			L24c	>Using canopy analysis data, strategically plant trees to optimize public health and stormwater benefits
			L25	Diversify the urban forest for long term resilience
			L26	Earn recognition for urban forest stewardship as a Tree City USA
			L27	Harvest and utilize high value wood products from trees that must be removed
			L+28	+ Optimize tree planting and protect existing trees for maximum carbon storage/sequestration and energy savings


Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
LAND Landscapes	<p><i>Sustain beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services</i></p>	L29	Manage traditional, cultivated landscapes sustainably
		L29a	>Replace turf with sustainable landscaping alternatives
		L29b	>Manage lawns using natural products and low-impact practices
		L29c	>Encourage community-wide use of integrated pest management to reduce impacts from fertilizers and pesticides
		L29d	>Use integrated pest management strategies for municipal landscapes to reduce impacts from fertilizers and pesticides
		L30	Increase the quality and amount of sustainable landscaping in the community
		L30a	>Use native and sustainable landscaping on municipal properties
		L30b	>Promote native and sustainable landscaping initiatives community wide by connecting residents to plants and information
		L30c	>Increase the amount of sustainable landscaping in the community through subdivision and development codes
		L30d	>Encourage planting and registering of pollinator gardens through the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge
		L30e	>Adopt the Mayors Monarch Pledge
		L31	Maintain beautiful landscapes and streetscapes to enhance gateways, business districts and important public spaces


A	B	C	D	E	
LAND	Category			OBJECTIVE	
				> STRATEGY	
			GOAL	+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
	Policy	<i>Achieve greater livability through sustainable land use and housing policies</i>		<i>L32</i>	Adopt codes and incentives that guide sustainable development that maximizes social benefits and minimizes infrastructure demands
				<i>L32a</i>	>Modify zoning and building regulations to allow mixed-use
				<i>L32b</i>	>Use zoning and development regulations in strategic locations to increase walkability
				<i>L32c</i>	>Promote site design that encourages the development of vibrant, walkable, commercial areas
				<i>L33</i>	Enact and enforce land use policies that protect valuable natural assets and support resiliency
				<i>L33a</i>	>Enact and enforce land-use policies that preserve open space
				<i>L33b</i>	>Enact and enforce policies that preserve and restore functioning wetlands
			<i>L33c</i>	>Enact policies that require conservation design best management practices to protect natural resources	
			<i>L33d</i>	>Protect sensitive aquifer areas via land use regulations	
			<i>L33e</i>	>Protect key natural assets and open space through zoning and planned unit developments	
			<i>L33f</i>	>Enact and enforce a tree preservation ordinance to protect valuable trees on private property	
			<i>L34</i>	Integrate resiliency strategies into development policies and plans	
			<i>L35</i>	Facilitate the retention of farms and other working lands	
			<i>L36</i>	Enact an ordinance that requires ample sustainable tree and landscape planting for new development and redevelopments	
			<i>L37</i>	Collaborate with state and federal partners to prepare for and respond to invasive pest threats	


Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE
		> STRATEGY
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY
LAND Education, Outreach & Engagement	Cultivate a conservation ethic in the community	L38 Engage the community in programs and special events to celebrate nature, such as Arbor Day and Earth Day
		L39 Educate the community about the value of trees, native and sustainable landscaping
		L40 Engage community volunteers in land stewardship activities on public and shared landscapes
		L41 Educate city staff about forest, wetlands and prairie best management practices
		L42 Encourage beautiful, sustainable landscaping on private property
		L43 Enlist volunteer groups to help in acquisition and stewardship of public lands
		L44 Engage residents through a natural resources, conservation and/ or tree commission
		L45 Educate planning commissioners about sustainable development principles and conservation strategies
		L46 Engage local farmers to adopt conservation practices


Category		OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
GOAL			
Water Conservation	<i>Use and distribute water efficiently</i>	W1	Reduce community water consumption per capita
		W1a	>Implement water efficiency measures at all municipal facilities
		W1b	>Encourage residents and businesses to identify and mitigate water loss
		W2	Become a US EPA WaterSense Partner
		W3	Designate a staff Water Conservation Coordinator to manage water conservation programs
		W4	Participate in regional efforts and programs to conserve water
		W+5	Provide customer incentives to retrofit using high efficiency, Water Sense appliances and fixtures
		W+6	Provide water use audits to customers
		W+7	Collaborate with energy utilities to integrate water conservation into energy audits for residential customers
		W+8	Collaborate to encourage commercial, industrial and institutional customers to conserve water
Water Quality	<i>Protect and improve water quality</i>	W9	Protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination
		W9a	>Avoid the use of coal tar sealants on municipal property
		W9b	>Resolve to eliminate unnecessary landscape pesticides and fertilizer use on municipal property
		W9c	>Use sensible salting strategies to reduce chloride contamination
		W10	Collaborate to identify sensitive aquifer recharge areas
		W11	Support post-development runoff reduction and mitigation
		W12	Inventory and inspect septic systems
		W13	Collaborate with regional initiatives to protect Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River
W14	Label storm drains indicating the destination of discharge		


Category		OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
	GOAL		
WATER	Water Infrastructure	<p><i>Manage water system assets sustainably</i></p>	<p>W15 Operate an efficient water utility that delivers clean, healthful, water</p>
			<p>W15a >Control water loss by auditing water supply system using AWWA protocols</p>
			<p>W15b >Periodically detect system leaks and develop a strategic plan for repair</p>
			<p>W16 Comprehensively and sustainably manage water infrastructure</p>
			<p>W16a >Develop a water infrastructure asset management plan to sustain the system</p>
			<p>W16b >Implement the water infrastructure asset management plan to sustain the system</p>
			<p>W16c >Meter 100% of customers with automated reading technology</p>
			<p>W16d >Implement sub-metering for multi-family housing customers</p>
			<p>W16e >Detect and repair water system leaks</p>
			<p>W16f >Repair and replace inefficient water supply infrastructure</p>
			<p>W16g >Support property owners in timely repair of service lines through third-party warranty program</p>
			<p>W17 Invest water revenues into sustaining water infrastructure</p>
			<p>W18 Coordinate street, utility and water infrastructure projects</p>
			<p>W19 Seek both public and private financing partnerships for infrastructure improvements</p>
			<p>W20 <i>Riparian communities:</i> Collaborate with other agencies to assess dam performance and support removal when feasible</p>

Category		OBJECTIVE		
		> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
WATER	Stormwater Management and Green Infrastructure	<p><i>Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater</i></p>	GOAL	
			W21	Participate in the Community Rating System for flood mitigation and planning
			W22	Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program allowing residents to access flood insurance
			W23	Implement green infrastructure best management practices on municipal properties
			W23a	>Build or retrofit paved surfaces with permeable materials
			W23b	>Install and maintain bioswales, filter strips, trees, rain gardens, and other functional landscapes
			W24	Encourage residents and businesses to adopt green infrastructure practices
			W24a	>Collaborate to provide rain barrels, plants and other resources to allow resident to capture and store rainwater
			W25	Encourage residents and businesses to reduce flood risks on their property
			W25a	>Incentive overhead basement sewer conversion
			W25b	>Encourage property owners to disconnect downspouts from sewers and direct flow to landscaping
			W26	Enhance natural features of stormwater detention and retention systems
			W27	Collaborate to enhance wetlands for improved ecosystem services
			W28	Collaborate with regional and state agencies to sustainably manage stormwater
			W+29	+ Use USEPA Water Quality Scorecard to develop a systems approach to optimize stormwater
			W+30	+ Establish a stormwater utility funding mechanism


Category		OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
	GOAL		
WATER	Policy	<p><i>Enact policies to protect water resources</i></p>	<p>W31 Conduct a water rate study to determine sustainable rate structure</p>
			<p>W32 Adopt full-cost pricing policies for water service</p>
			<p>W33 Amend code to require water efficiency and conservation in commercial and residential development</p>
			<p>W34 Incorporate conservation practices into new development guidelines and incentives</p>
			<p>W35 Adopt a water conservation policy and/or plan inclusive of all customers and municipal operations</p>
			<p>W35a >Enact and enforce regulation to control of wasteful water practices</p>
			<p>W35b >Enact and enforce outdoor watering regulations responsive to drought conditions</p>
			<p>W35c >Regulate or incentive water efficiency for customers managing large landscapes</p>
			<p>W36 Update stormwater ordinance to integrate Illinois State Model Local Stormwater Ordinance</p>
			<p>W37 Adopt codes that enable rainwater harvesting for non-potable uses</p>
			<p>W38 Adopt a resolution supporting the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact</p>
			<p>W39 Review and adopt codes to eliminate barriers to green infrastructure BMPs including cisterns, green roofs, bioswales, permeable paving</p>
			<p>W40 Allow flexibility (off-site management, payment-in-lieu) to allow developments to meet stormwater management requirements sustainably</p>
			<p>W41 Enact codes that protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination</p>


Category		OBJECTIVE		
		> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
	GOAL			
WATER	Stewardship	Practice stewardship of water resources	W42	Sustain supply of high-quality public water
			W43	Ensure drinking and wastewater systems are operating efficiently
			W44	Utilize treated effluent as a valuable water resource
			W45	Participate in watershed planning and stewardship efforts
			W46	Implement municipal recommendations from watershed plan
			W46	Allow public access and encourage stewardship of community waterways
			W48	Support regional and statewide water supply planning and stewardship
			W49	Contribute local data on water supply, quality and operations to support state and regional stewardship
			W+50	+ Enact a water offset policy for water neutral community growth
			Education and Outreach	Engage the community in water stewardship
	W52	Educate the community on the value of clean and safe drinking water		
	W53	Promote tap water over bottled water		
	W54	Educate the community on practices that reduce contamination of water resources		
	W55	Support private well-owners in water quality monitoring and stewardship		
	W56	Educate customers about public water supply and wastewater operations through media and events		
	W57	Educate the community on benefits and practices of green infrastructure		
	W58	Educate and support the community in preparing for and managing floods		
	W59	Collaborate to teach water conservation and stewardship in schools		
	W60	Collaborate to raise watershed awareness and foster stewardship		


WASTE & RECYCLING	Category				
		GOAL	OBJECTIVE		
			> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY			
WASTE REDUCTION	Support sustainable material management	WR1	Set a specific waste reduction goal:		
		WR1a	> Set a waste reduction goal for municipal operations		
		WR1b	> Set a waste reduction goal for the community		
		WR2	Promote and practice waste reduction & recycling in municipal operations		
		WR3	Reduce the use of paper in municipal offices		
		WR4	Conduct waste audits to identify waste reduction opportunities		
		WR5	Support exchange of goods and services among residents (i.e. Rummage Sale, Sporting Goods Swap)		
		WR+6	+ Adopt a Pay-As-You-Throw program		
		WR+7	Support by-product synergies among industries		
		WR+8	Make public events "zero waste"		
		RECYCLING	Recycle materials across all sectors	WR9	Establish and strive for specific recycling goals:
				WR9a	> Establish and strive for a residential recycling goal
				WR9b	> Establish and strive for a multi-family recycling goal
				WR9c	> Establish and strive for a commercial & institutional recycling goal
				WR10	Provide curbside recycling for residents
WR11	Provide access to recycling infrastructure and services at public places				
WR +12	Support regional efforts for developing a food scrap composting services				
WASTE DIVERSION	Divert waste from landfills	WR13	Collaborate to Support proper disposal of:		
		WR13a	> Support proper disposal of household hazardous waste		
		WR13b	> Support proper disposal of pharmaceutical and personal care product waste		
		WR13c	> Support proper disposal of fats, oils and grease (FOGs)		
		WR13d	> Support proper disposal of electronic waste		
		WR14	Collaborate to provide recycling service for items not suitable for curbside pickup e.g. clothing, shoes, Christmas		
		WR15	Facilitate biosolid re-use in the community (e.g. landscaping)		


WASTE & RECYCLING	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
Policy	<i>Enact policies that cause sustainable material management</i>		WR16	Require commercial & multi-family recycling
			WR17	Establish a construction & demolition recycling policy
			WR18	Eliminate policy barriers to on-site composting
			WR19	Engage with Solid Waste agencies to manage waste sustainably
			WR20	Ban or discourage the use of products resulting in unmanageable waste (e.g. plastic bags)
Education & Engagement	<i>Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling</i>		WR21	Educate the community on recycling and composting practices
			WR22	Educate the community to reduce waste by consuming less and reusing
			WR23	Discourage fly dumping and littering
			WR24	Organize a community wide clean-up day
			WR25	Engage community volunteers in recycling education and events


Category		OBJECTIVE		
		> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
	GOAL			
MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS	Lead by Example	<i>Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices</i>	MO1	Support or create an interdisciplinary team to coordinate internal sustainability efforts
			MO2	Dedicate staff to direct sustainability initiatives
			MO3	Leverage state/federal and private grants and resources to advance sustainability
			MO4	Educate and train staff on sustainability practices
			MO5	Achieve third party certification for sustainable public facilities
			MO5a	>Achieve LEED or Green Globes certification for public buildings
			MO5b	>Achieve Sustainable Sites Certification for public landscapes
			MO5c	>Achieve ENVISION certification for public infrastructure
			MO6	Formalize sustainability goals and plans
			MO6a	>Adopt the Greenest Region Compact
			MO6b	>Use the GRC Framework to create a sustainability plan and formally adopt it
			MO+7	Consolidate and/or share the delivery of public services with other local governments
			MO+8	+ Establish municipal finance practices to re-invest cost savings into sustainability initiatives
			Sustainable Operations	
MO10	Extend useful life of physical assets			
MO11	Manage special events sustainably			
MO+12	Integrate sustainability into capital planning			
MO+13	Inventory, assess and manage municipal assets sustainably			


Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS	<i>Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet</i>	<i>MO14</i>	Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet
		<i>MO14a</i>	>Conduct baseline fleet analysis
		<i>MO14b</i>	>Optimize fleet performance by reconciling tasks and vehicle types
		<i>MO14c</i>	>Increase fleet efficiency through driver education and training
		<i>MO14d</i>	>Modify and retrofit vehicles to use alternate fuels
		<i>MO14d</i>	> Migrate fleet to alternate fuel vehicles
		<i>MO15</i>	>Certify as an IEPA Illinois Green Fleet
		<i>MO15</i>	>Join Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition and report reduction of petroleum fuel consumption annually
		<i>MO+17</i>	+ Collaborate with businesses, industry leaders and other agencies to develop alternative fuel infrastructure
		<i>Collect and manage data to advance sustainability</i>	<i>MO18</i>
<i>MO18a</i>	>Establish performance metrics		
<i>MO18b</i>	>Collect and organize data		
<i>MO18c</i>	>Report and share data		
<i>MO18d</i>	>Continue to track and monitor data over time		
<i>MO+10</i>	+ Use 'smart' technology to efficiently manage waste, water, fleet, air and energy data		

Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
MOBILITY	Bike and Pedestrian <i>Support safe and effective active transportation</i>	M1	Identify gaps in pedestrian and the bicycle networks and barriers to active modes of travel
		M2	Create a bicycle and pedestrian plan to improve connectivity in the community and beyond
		M3	Implement recommendations from the bicycle and pedestrian plan
		M3a	>Earn Bicycle Friendly Community designation
		M3b	>Earn Walk Friendly Community designation
		M4	Collaborate with regional partners to connect on-and off-road bicycle facilities with existing and planned regional trail networks
		M5	Provide bicycle parking at municipal facilities, business districts and transit stations and in neighborhoods
	Transportation Infrastructure <i>Maintain a diverse, safe and efficient transportation network</i>	M6	Maintain streets and sidewalks for efficiency and safety without harming natural resources
		M7	Maintain efficient traffic flow within and around the community
		M8	Synchronize traffic signals to reduce vehicle idling
		M9	Incorporate sustainable roadways into capital improvement planning, proactively plan for major transportation infrastructure improvements
		M10	Collaborate to develop transportation infrastructure with context sensitivity
		M11	Coordinate with regional transportation agencies to maximize bicycle, pedestrian, vehicular transit, and rail connectivity and mobility
		M12	Collaborate to provide alternative fuel infrastructure at public sites
M13		Incorporate trees and other green infrastructure elements into roadway design and maintenance for functionality and aesthetics	
	M+14	+ Use the Envision checklist and infrastructure sustainability rating system to guide project development	


MOBILITY	Category				
		GOAL	OBJECTIVE		
			> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY			
MOBILITY	Stewardship	Support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely	M15	Support regional transportation innovation	
			M16	Support coordinated investment to improve efficiency in passenger and freight railroads	
			M17	Collaborate to support a network of alternate fueling infrastructure	
			M18	Advocate for broad adoption of clean fuel fleets (i.e utilities, businesses, other agencies etc.)	
			M19	Support strong national fuel efficiency standards	
			M20	Seek both public and private partnership to finance transportation system improvements	
			M21	Strategically manage parking policies and priorities to advance sustainability	
			M22	Create Safe Routes to School	
	Policy	Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs and regulations	M23	Enact and enforce anti-idling policies for public fleet vehicles	
			M24	Designate no idling zones at schools, transit stations etc.	
			M25	Adapt engineering standards to incorporate sustainable practices into roadway construction and maintenance while assuring public safety	
			M26	Adapt building codes to accommodate and encourage alternate fuel infrastructure	
			M27	Adopt a Complete Streets policy to benefit all road users	
			M28	Revise subdivision code to promote active transportation, i.e., street sanctions that require bicycle facilities and sidewalks	
	Shared-use Mobility	Promote public and sustainable transportation choices	M29	Collaborate to maintain and enhance transit facilities	
			M30	Collaborate to expand regional transit capacity and improve service	
			M31	Expand local transit connections to meet identified needs	
			M32	Collaborate to provide multi-modal transportation options to resolve the first and last mile barrier	
			M33	Encourage municipal employees to use alternative modes of transportation to commute to work	
	MOBILITY	Education & Outreach	Promote public and sustainable transportation choices	M34	Encourage residents and visitors to walk and bike
				M35	Promote the availability of regional transit options
				M36	Collaborate with the community's largest employers to offer flex scheduling, telecommuting, public and active transportation
M37				Educate the community on the negative impacts of car idling	
M38				Advocate for mass transit funding	
M39				Encourage active transportation and community building in an open streets event	

Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
ENERGY Energy Efficiency	<i>Use energy for building and facilities efficiently</i>	E1	> Conduct energy audits of municipal facilities
		E2	Support energy audits and retro-commissioning studies of residential, commercial and institutional facilities
		E3	> Conduct retro-commissioning studies to optimize public facility performance
		E4	> Implement operational changes recommended in the retro commissioning study
		E5	Implement energy efficiency measures that have a short-term payback (i.e. lighting, occupancy sensors)
		E6	Implement energy efficiency measures that have a longer-term payback
		E7	Collaborate with utilities and other agencies to upgrade streetlight equipment and integrate smart technologies
		E8	Achieve ENERGY STAR certification for municipal buildings
		E+9	+ Utilize performance contracts to finance large energy efficiency projects
		E+10	+ Demonstrate extreme energy efficiency with a model Passivhaus building
		E+11	+ Budget and plan for long-term energy efficiency equipment upgrades
Renewable Energy	<i>Advance renewable energy</i>	E12	Install and operate renewable energy systems at municipal facilities
		E12a	> Use power purchase agreements, leasing and other strategies to finance renewable energy systems
		E13	Support the adoption of renewable energy technologies in the community
		E13a	> Adopt codes and permitting practices that support renewable energy systems in the community
		E13b	> Facilitate access to renewable energy systems through collaborative purchasing for residents and business
		E14	Procure renewable energy for public facilities
		E14a	> Become a US EPA Green Power Community
		E15	Support procurement of renewable energy through community choice aggregation
		E16	Develop renewable energy capacity targeting underutilized public properties (i.e. brownfields)
		E+17	+ Collaborate to provide access to community solar


Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
ENERGY Energy Management	<i>Reduce energy consumption</i>	E18	Power down equipment when possible
		E19	Participate in demand response programs
		E20	Track and benchmark energy consumption through ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager
		E21	Utilize energy management expertise (i.e. Building Operator Certification and Certified Energy Manager)
		E22	Participate in energy management challenges and programs
		E+23	+ Utilize performance contracts to finance energy efficiency projects when feasible
ENERGY Policy	<i>Enact policies that support clean energy</i>	E24	Adopt current Illinois Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and report compliance
		E25	Facilitate the adoption of renewable energy technologies (i.e. solar, geothermal) by adapting building and zoning codes
		E+26	+ Collaborate to advance Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) policies
		E+27	+ Adopt 'stretch codes' setting higher standards for energy efficiency than IECC
		E+28	+ Enact an ordinance requiring periodic benchmarking for large energy users
ENERGY Education & Outreach	<i>Engage the community in clean energy practices</i>	E+29	+ Negotiate franchise agreement with utilities to exercise lump sum payment option to finance clean energy
		E30	Partner with electric and gas utilities to promote energy efficiency programs to the community
		E31	Promote the use of ENERGY STAR certified appliances and equipment
		E32	Publicly recognize institutional and private buildings that achieve a specific energy efficiency targets
		E33	Collaborate to educate the community about clean energy options


SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	Arts and Culture	<i>Promote cultural vibrancy in the community</i>	SC1	Preserve and maintain the community's historic assets
			SC2	Integrate historical and cultural assets through community programming
			SC3	Formalize support for culture and the arts
			SC4	Engage community volunteers through an arts/culture-oriented citizen advisory group
			SC5	Foster understanding of diverse cultural traditions
			SC6	Promote beauty and livability in community design, stewardship, and through partnerships
	Health & Safety	<i>Foster a culture of health, safety and wellness</i>	SC7	Protect all residents from the effects of pollution
			SC8	Create a community that is resilient and well-prepared for disaster
			SC9	Connect community members to existing services that support health and wellness
			SC10	Ensure high quality essential human services programs are available and utilized
			SC11	Collaborate with state and federal partners to prepare for and respond to pest and disease threats to public health
			SC12	Collaborate to offer active and healthy lifestyle programs to residents
			SC+13	+ Support balanced, active play for families
			SC+13a	>Become recognized as a Playful City USA
			SC+14	+ Prioritize safe practices and collaborate to reduce accidental injuries and death
SC+14a	>Become certified as a Safe Community			
		SC+15	+ Integrate planning, policies and programs to accommodate residents of all ages and abilities	

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
			Code	Description
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	Local Food	<i>Increase access to sustainably grown local food</i>	SC16	Educate and engage the community in a sustainable food culture
			SC17	Incorporate local and healthy options into public food-service procurement and events
			SC18	Support and promote family and community gardens
			SC+19	+ Analyze and assess the current food system
			SC+20	+ Support innovative technologies for food production and distribution
	Social Justice	<i>Sustain community principles that are welcoming, inclusive and equitable</i>	SC21	Cultivate and preserve a welcoming and inclusive community character
			SC22	Support social justice and equity throughout the community
			SC23	Promote diversity of housing stock accessible to diverse residents
			SC24	Distribute public services and resources equitably in the community
	Sustainable Community	<i>Promote a sustainable identity for the community</i>	SC25	Promote third party certification for sustainable private facilities
			SC25a	>Promote green certification for private buildings
			SC25b	>Promote ENVISION certification for private infrastructure
			SC26	Develop and maintain a community brand that highlights sustainability
			SC26a	>Participate in the Green Office Challenge
			SC+27	+ Assess sustainability achievements relative to comparable cities
			SC27a	>Participate in the STAR Community Rating System
			SC28	Incentivize green building in new construction and re-construction
	Policy	<i>Assure local policies and codes support sustainability</i>	SC29	Identify existing Code impediments sustainable building and site best practices
			SC30	Develop housing policies, programs, and regulations designed to support and promote sustainability
			SC31	Revise and/or develop codes to promote sustainable building and site practices
			SC32	Enact policies to preserve dark skies
			SC+33	+ Incentivize green building in new construction and re-construction
			SC+34	+ Require third-party green building certification for appropriate new construction

				
		OBJECTIVE		
Category	GOAL	> STRATEGY		
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	Education	Cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability	SC35	Educate the community about sustainability initiatives using existing municipal communication outlets (i.e., cable TV, newsletters)
			SC36	Assure community education messages are accessible in all languages and formats
			SC37	Use community festivals, lectures, workshops and other events to share information about sustainability
			SC38	Distribute sustainability information and resources provided by other allied organizations and government agencies
			SC39	Collaborate to incorporate sustainability into school curricula
			SC40	Collaborate to assure equitable access to quality education in the community
			SC+41	+ Formalize an environmental education strategy
			SC+42	+ Develop/ distribute a green building manual
			SC43	Utilize strategic partnerships with other community organizations to promote sustainability
			SC44	Participate in regional and national sustainability networks
	Outreach and Engagement	Cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability	SC45	Encourage the community to participate in sustainability initiatives and events
			SC46	Establish or strengthen an inter and intra/agency Green Team
			SC47	Engage residents in sustainability initiatives through an environmentally-focused citizen advisory group
			SC48	Foster positive communication and collaboration among local and regional institutions
			SC49	Reach out and remove barriers to include all residents in civic affairs
			SC50	Host environmentally focused event(s)
			SC51	Encourage residents and businesses to contribute their time and resources to sustain the community
			SC52	Promote green building practices to residents, businesses and developers
			SC+53	Create an award or recognition program to encourage and report sustainable behaviors for residents at home
			SC+54	Create an award or recognition program to encourage and report sustainable actions by local businesses

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
			> STRATEGY	
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Workforce Development	<i>Promote innovation and a competitive workforce</i>	ED1	Connect local businesses with education training, and jobs related to sustainability
			ED2	Advocate for the development of a competitive 'green workforce'
			ED3	Advocate for new opportunities in the clean energy industry
	Innovation		ED4	Encourage green innovation among residents and local businesses
			ED5	Collaborate to support innovation centers
			Green Economy	ED6
	ED7	Recognize and support businesses who practice and promote sustainability		
	ED8	Promote local goods and services		
	ED9	Create and promote a community brand featuring natural resources or cultural characteristics of community		
	ED10	Promote tourism featuring natural and cultural assets of the community		
	Policy	ED11		Promote the economic prosperity of the community
		ED12	Advocate for expanded job opportunities and sufficient wages	

A	B	C	D	E	
CLIMATE	Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE		
			> STRATEGY		
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY		
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<i>Reduce greenhouse gas emissions</i>	C1	Establish a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction target:	
			C1a	>Utilize US EPA's Local Climate Action Framework to plan and evaluate climate strategies	
			C2	Measure and monitor GHG emissions	
			C2a	>Measure and monitor GHG from municipal operations	
			C2b	>Measure and monitor GHG community wide	
			C+3	+ Verify and report climate action to Carbonn Climate Registry	
			C+4	+ Participate in carbon offset program	
			C+5	+ Commit to the Compact of Mayors	
	Air Quality	<i>Maintain clean and healthful air</i>	C6	Regulate burning of landscape waste	
			C7	Facilitate compliance of federal air quality standards by businesses	
			C8	Participate in Illinois Partners for Clean Air	
			C9	Discourage the use of high-emitting small engines, such as for landscaping	
			C10	Reduce volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions for municipal operations by using low VOC cleaners, paints, and paving practices	
			C11	Establish policies to meet Illinois Dept of Public Health Indoor Air quality standards	
	Resiliency	<i>Develop resiliency to climate change impacts</i>	C12	Coordinate resiliency efforts with federal, state and regional planning agencies	
C12a			>Prepare Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan		
C13			Collaboratively manage urban heat islands		
C+14			+ Assess infrastructure and public safety threats from extreme weather events		
C+15			+ Develop a resiliency plan to protect assets, public health, and provide essential services through natural and man-made disasters		
Education & Outreach	<i>Engage the community in climate change mitigation and adaptation</i>	C16	Educate the public about climate change		
		C17	Participate in Cool Communities		
		C18	Inform the community about air quality index and air pollution action days		

Category	 GOAL	OBJECTIVE	
		> STRATEGY	
		+ ADVANCED STRATEGY	
LEADERSHIP	Leadership <i>Enlist support for GRC2 goals through regional, state and national leadership</i>	L1	Engage with academia and non-governmental organization to support the GRC2
		L2	Engage with state and national municipal associations to align actions with GRC2
		L3	Report local and regional environmental data to advance national and international collaborative efforts (e.g., GHG reporting, water supply planning)
		L4	Share information about municipal leadership in sustainability broadly in the community and externally
		L5	Seek recognition for community sustainability achievements
	Advocacy <i>Advocate for policies that align with and advance the GRC2</i>	L6	Advocate for state policies and investment that support municipal advances in sustainability
		L7	Advocate for federal policies and investment that support municipal advances in sustainability
		L8	Seek collaboration with the business sector to support municipal sustainability, (e.g., product stewardship)
	Collaboration <i>Work collaboratively towards a sustainable region</i>	L9	Partner with other local governments to achieve efficiency and sustainability
		L10	Participate with regional, state and federal initiatives to plan and achieve sustainability
		L11	Partner with non-governmental organization to advance sustainability in the community and regionally