

**CITY OF EVANSTON
CITIZEN INPUT SESSION
July 26, 2005**

Topic: Thinking about the future of the City of Evanston, identify the types of services, businesses, entertainment, neighborhoods, general land use that would be most important to consider in the strategic planning process.

Services/Vision:

- ❑ Equitable education/opportunity and a computer in every home (and someone who knows how to use it)
- ❑ Greater bicycle transportation and storage facilities – alternate transportation
- ❑ Subsidized building of assisted living (by Northwestern University)
- ❑ Expedite activities/services with government
- ❑ Beautiful lake front and harbor
- ❑ At least one important department store
- ❑ Streamline transportation, hybrid energy for vehicles
- ❑ Snow removal – clearing streets and not creating impediments on sidewalks
- ❑ Training opportunities for first time homeowners – new homeowner training
- ❑ Ongoing training program for city residence to use less energy as shown in “Natural Step” book
- ❑ Equitable payment of services
- ❑ Self-supporting services, without surcharges
- ❑ Cultural venues, beaches, others offered on a sliding scale or free basis
- ❑ Training for council to help them to develop and oversee policy development, train city council members to understand scope of their role, including representation of the city as a whole
- ❑ More senior services
- ❑ Eliminate redundant and duplicative services
 - Use funds in other ways
- ❑ More regional strategies
 - Shared services
- ❑ Marina

Businesses:

- ❑ Retirement communities within neighborhoods
- ❑ More cooperative parking plan for businesses - free transit passes
- ❑ Small light manufacturing – 50-200 employees
- ❑ Businesses that employ Evanston residents
- ❑ Neighborhood oriented stores on the Southside
- ❑ Small heliport built on lake front
- ❑ City-wide marketing plan to draw consumers from around Evanston
- ❑ Stores that sell clothing for “real people”
- ❑ Environmentally concerned businesses
- ❑ Independent small businesses
- ❑ Deli’s and stores to support harbor

Entertainment:

- ❑ Supervised activities for teens and pre-teens
- ❑ Water front attractions/features
- ❑ Arts facility like North Light
- ❑ Indoor basketball; dancing for kids
- ❑ Roller-skating rink in addition to ice skating
- ❑ Outdoor swimming pool
- ❑ Bowling alley
- ❑ Dance hall
- ❑ Further development of Mount Trashmore – maybe water park
- ❑ Skating rink (roller-rink) (in addition to ice skating)
- ❑ Large, multi-use community space/center
- ❑ Libraries
 - Expand South Branch
 - Establish West Branch
 - Bookmobile
 - Books to homebound
- ❑ Legitimate theater
- ❑ Pedestrian mall
- ❑ Car free downtown
 - Small bus system supported by businesses

Neighborhoods:

- ❑ Preservation of civic center
- ❑ “Green belts” to connect neighborhoods East and West and the lake
- ❑ Create a neighborhood downtown, tear down building North of Fountain Square and build park
- ❑ Different ways for traffic control – realignment of parking on neighborhood streets
- ❑ Preservation of character of neighborhoods related to housing stock
- ❑ ID neighborhoods that need to be protected from high density
 - Define neighborhoods
 - Planned development

- ❑ Preservation of historic housing stock
- ❑ Neighborhood schools

General Land Use:

- ❑ Ensure new developments include green space, especially by sidewalks
- ❑ City government to have better cooperation with adjacent entities (Chicago on Howard, Skokie on McCormick, Wilmette architectural integrity, CTA – rail lines along Chicago Avenue and Northwestern) – improve rail lines
- ❑ Location of City Government and 2100 Ridge recycling center
- ❑ Mixed use in neighborhoods/maintain
- ❑ Parking with more green space
- ❑ Land/tax implications
- ❑ Maintain our park system
- ❑ Preserve character of narrow streets
- ❑ Follow the general comprehensive plan
- ❑ Limit Sherman, Orrington and Davis to three stories to prevent canyon-feel in downtown
- ❑ Preserve lake front
- ❑ Don't pave everything
 - Ground water
- ❑ Sidewalk plan