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“The best way to predict the future is to create it.” ~ various

City of Decatur  
Illinois

Goals

# Introduction

In January 2016 the Decatur City Council began establishing a series of goals designed to continue the recent string of community successes that are today moving our community forward. We should all be proud that that many of those successes were related to items that you have worked hard to accomplish over the years and that were listed as priorities for you in the city manager recruitment brochure provided in early 2015.

This process has been undertaken while being ever aware in our planning of community wide concerns

You began this goal-setting process with transparency as a driving factor. There was community outreach through press relations, multiple study sessions and paid advertisements to make sure that our decisions reflected the needs and desires of the community. Based on public and council input, your goals were grouped into the categories of economic development, neighborhood revitalization, organizational operations and infrastructure improvements. As you know, this goals document should serve as a roadmap for future municipal efforts while existing as a dynamic, somewhat flexible guide allowing us to respond to ever-changing opportunities as they arise.



that - if ignored - could threaten the very successes that we have all worked so hard to obtain. Today's municipal government has been streamlined to meet the needs of our community while operating on the tightest of margins during what have been tough economic times. Not to be overlooked is the community sacrifice that has also been necessary to prepare Decatur for the opportunity to turn the corner that is before us now.

Tim Gleason  
City Manager

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



- ◆ **Make Decatur The Most Competitive Regional Business Climate - [12/16 Update to Council]**

Expedite permitting process, establish pro-growth policies for development, continued improvement - internal development requirements, creation of written comprehensive economic development plan with performance metrics, establish new or improved corridor for retail sales (ex. Mound Road and US 51 Intersection, area near Target, Pershing Road, etc.).

- ◆ **Provide and Support Strong Economy with Good Jobs - [12/16 Update to Council]**

Diversify economy, enhance focus on recruiting/retaining smaller shops in addition to bigger entities, strategic plan with short and long term goals.

- ◆ **Revisit Downtown Parking - [3/17 Report to Council]**



Northeast Community Fund



Internet Cleanup

# Neighborhood Revitalization

## ◆ Neighborhood Revitalization Through Partnerships - [Q1 2017 Report to Council]

Target public private or governmental partnerships, focus on continuing to make Decatur a community of choice, work with Park District to create enhanced outdoor spaces.

## ◆ Housing Stock Revitalization Program Enhancements - [Q1 2017 Report to Council]

Incentives to renovate/rebuild, enhanced code enforcement.

## ◆ Stabilize and Improve Local EAV - [Q1 2017 Report to Council]

## ◆ Improved Sideyard Program - [Q1 2017 Report to Council]

Remove impediments and streamline, fencing allowance.

## ◆ Landbanking/Neighborhood Targeting/ Comprehensive Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan [Q1 2017 Report to Council]





# Organizational Operations

- ◆ Develop New, Sustainable Revenue Sources (non-burdensome) - [Ongoing]
- ◆ Make Goal-Setting (Strategic Planning) annual precursor to budget - [Complete]
- ◆ Residency Requirement for New Hires - [Complete for non represented emp. — discussions ongoing]

Incentives to renovate/rebuild to encourage municipal residency,

## ◆ Fiscal Responsibility

Pursue government partnerships, lobby for state pension reform, to renovate/rebuild, enhanced code enforcement.



# INFRASTRUCTURE

- ◆ **Repair/Rehab/Relocate Fire Stations**  
- [Funding approved, planing underway]
- ◆ **Pursue Overpass at I-72 & Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.**
- ◆ **Brush College Road/Beltway Projects** -  
[Intergovt. transportation team established/work underway]
- ◆ **Implement Sewer Improvements** -  
[Stormwater work funded and underway/USEPA Discussions ongoing]
- ◆ **Approve Local Motor Fuel Tax/Repair and Repave Local Streets** -  
[Local MFT approved/streets identified]

