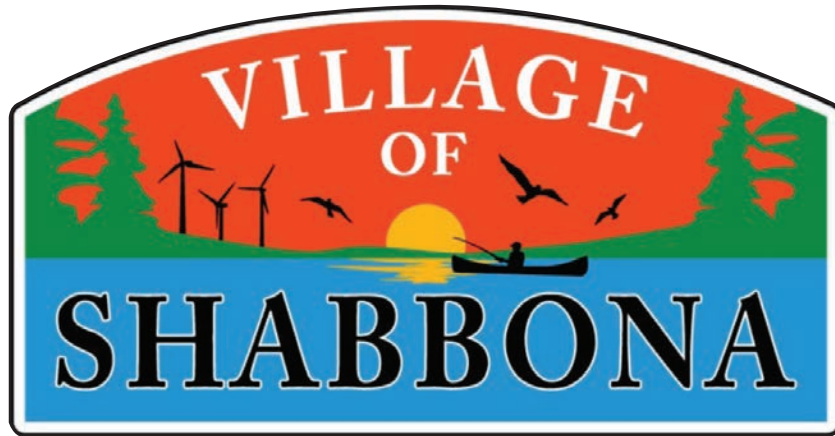




Shabbona Comprehensive Plan 2023

*A thriving small town which provides
unique business opportunities and
promotes its high quality of life
through recreational trails and
opportunities.*



PREPARED BY:



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Resolution

Resolution #2023-08-28

ADOPTING THE 2023 VILLAGE OF SHABBONA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, the Village of Shabbona (hereinafter the "Village") is a duly organized and existing Illinois municipality pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code 65 ILCS 5/1-1-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Village is authorized and empowered, under section 11-12-6 of the Illinois Municipal Code, to provide for an official comprehensive plan and to adopt a comprehensive plan by resolution; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was properly noticed and held on August 23, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Shabbona Comprehensive Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein to be adopted and approved in all respects; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan has been prepared pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code 65 ILCS 5/11-12-5; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Shabbona Planning and Zoning Board has recommended adoption of the 2023 Comprehensive Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Shabbona hereby adopts the this resolution to adopt the Comprehensive Plan on the date of signing; and

ADOPTED THIS 28th Day of August 2023.

AYES: 6

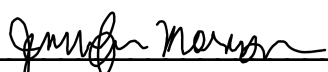
NAYES: 0

SIGNED BY:



Donald J. Goncher, Village President

ATTESTED BY:



Jennifer Morrison, Village Clerk

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

VILLAGE BOARD

Don Goncher, Village President
Marc Cinnamon, Village Trustee
Josh Clark, Village Trustee
Richard Lockowitz, Village Trustee
David Simpson, Village Trustee
Joy Fay, Village Trustee
Allison Kidd Probst, Village Trustee

VILLAGE STAFF

Jen Morrison, Village Clerk
Cindy Barnes, Village Treasurer

STEERING COMMITTEE

Jerry Foster
David Simpson
Dan Nolan
John Rood
Eric Shearer
Jon Ritter
Curt Herrmann
Jen Morrison
Allison Kidd Probst
Marc Cinnamon
Joy Fay

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INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides the foundation for Shabbona's Comprehensive Plan, outlining why we plan, the process, participation, and the planning area. It also provides background information on Shabbona, including key community indicators utilizing the most recent 2020 U.S. Census.

WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

The purpose of a comprehensive plan is to establish a shared vision for the Village of Shabbona. This vision, with associated goals, objections, partnerships and actions, will be used to guide future decisions by the Board and Staff. This guidance provides consistency and predictability over time which encourages investment. It will also assist the Village in becoming more proactive, rather than reactive, to our ever-changing world, and know that their decisions are made using their community's values and goals.

PLAN MAINTENANCE

Shabbona's Comprehensive Plan is a "living" document of which Village Staff and Board Members will use as a guide for growth and changes over the next ten years. In fact, even during the process, the Village was living the document and checking

off goals and objectives. This plan represents the Village's best effort to address current issues and anticipate future needs; however, amendments can and should be made prior to the recommended ten years should the Village have need, especially if major changes occur such as significant population growth or decline, a global pandemic, a national recession, etc. The process for amendment should not be onerous, but it should trigger a brief pause to consider again the long-term vision for the community. This plan's value and usefulness to the Village is dependent upon frequent use and occasional updates.

VILLAGE OF SHABBONA

Shabbona is a prosperous and bustling village, located 30 miles west of Aurora, on US 30, approximately 16 miles south of DeKalb and Northern

Illinois University with a population of 863 residents. The village is easily accessible, located close to several interstates and state highways making it an excellent place to live, own a business, or simply spend the day shopping, dining, or enjoying the many outdoor recreational activities that our historic area has to offer.

Shabbona is on the verge of exciting city life, yet retains that “get-away-from-it-all” atmosphere with rolling green agricultural fields, picturesque pastures, and big-heart community. Our peaceful community offers the best nature has to offer with breathtaking nature preserves and bucolic farmland. We have the Shabbona Lake State Park, Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve, and Indian Oaks Country Club. Shabbona Lake State Park draws over 450,000 visitors per year. Furthermore, Shabbona boasts a state-of-the-art High School and Elementary school, supported by a committed staff that ensures an exceptional education and consistently achieves the highest test scores in the county. A volunteer rescue squad/fire department, second to none, in conjunction with DeKalb County police protection provides a secure and safe environment to live and work.

2003 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The 2003 Comprehensive Plan provided some basic framework for future planning and changes in the community. However, it did not outline specific goals or action steps for the community to achieve. The goal of this plan is to be more achievable.

PLANNING PROCESS

Community Survey

Utilizing an online survey, the community was given the opportunity to submit their opinions on existing Village services as well as provide feedback on future changes. During the four weeks the survey was live, nearly 100 surveys representing 9% of the population were received. The results of this community feedback are woven throughout the document.

Stakeholder Workshops

A dedicated group of residents and business owners met a multitude of times to discuss the goals for the community and hash out a solid plan of action steps to meet those goals. These meetings were interactive, thoughtful, engaging, and open to the public.

INCORPORATING INPUT INTO THE PLAN

The goals identified within this plan support the community's vision for the future of Shabbona and address barriers and opportunities to realizing this

vision. Elements of the plan have been crafted from individual participants' ideas, common themes identified in stakeholder interviews, discussions and debates among Committee members, anonymous concerns identified in surveys, and the past experiences of the community as a whole.

This input allowed us to construct underlying themes as a frame for the plan and provided information on what specific issues and ideas are most important to Shabbona's citizens. This foundation ensured that the plan is not just a hollow document, but a guide for future decisions in Shabbona that are in line with the community's ideals which include:

Maintaining the **safe, quaint, small-town charm**. Investing in and celebrating the **Downtown and providing opportunities for economic development**, and investing in **Parks and Recreational** opportunities for all ages and abilities.

From this foundation, a better Shabbona can and will be built.

SHABBONA'S ASSETS FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

There are several metrics that can be used to continue to assist in Shabbona's prosperity. For this Comprehensive Plan Update, the focus is on the following six assets within each of the planning elements:

- Residents
- Associations
- Institutions
- Local Places (Natural and Built Environment)
- Exchange (a core community activity)
- Stories

The participants in this plan explored and recognized what Shabbona is already doing to prosper. They identified where the Village receives support, both internally and externally. They observed the small opportunities that are available and assigned champions to support those opportunities. They also identified outside resources for leveraging larger opportunities and initiatives. Additionally, it looked at the essential functions of Shabbona that are necessary for the community's well-being and success. By focusing on restoring the community's control and enabling authentic collaboration, then Shabbona will be ready to face future challenges.

VISION

The Village of Shabbona will become a thriving small town which provides unique business opportunities and promotes its high quality of life. It will be a connected community through trails and sidewalks. It will continue to enhance its connection with the natural environment through recreational opportunities and recreational tourism.



1. Value our small town heritage and historic charm.

Enhance and celebrate the unique characteristics that make us an established small town.

2. Enhance economic competitiveness.

Improve economic competitiveness through reliable and timely access to employment centers, educational opportunities, services, and other basic needs by workers as well as expanded business access to markets. Additionally, we support, retain, and expand existing industries and businesses.

3. Coordinate policies, enforce policies, and leverage investment. Align policies and funding to remove barriers to collaboration, leverage funding and increase the accountability and effectiveness of all levels of government to plan for future growth, including making smart energy choices such as locally generated renewable energy.

4. Provide quality transportation infrastructure.

Continue to develop safe, reliable, and economical transportation choices--including vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, and golf carts--to decrease household transportation costs, reduce oil dependency, improve air quality, reduce emissions, and promote public health.

5. Promote equitable and fair quality housing.

Expand the location of and the availability of energy-efficient housing choices for people of all ages, incomes, races, and ethnicities to increase mobility and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.

6. Support existing infrastructure and services.

Target funding toward existing communities--through such strategies as transit-oriented, mixed-use development and land recycling--to increase community revitalization, improve the efficiency of public works investments, and safeguard rural landscapes.

7. Provide year-round activities for residents of all ages and abilities.

Improve the quality of life for our residents by providing opportunities for passive and active recreation programs throughout the year.

8. Continue to support and invest in Downtown Shabbona.

Downtown is central to the vitality and identity of Shabbona. Continued investment in both private and public infrastructure will ensure it is there for future generations.

9. Shabbona is a safe, beautiful place to live.

Invest in homes, infrastructure, and the cultural arts to enhance our community's appearance, feeling of safety, and feeling of being home.

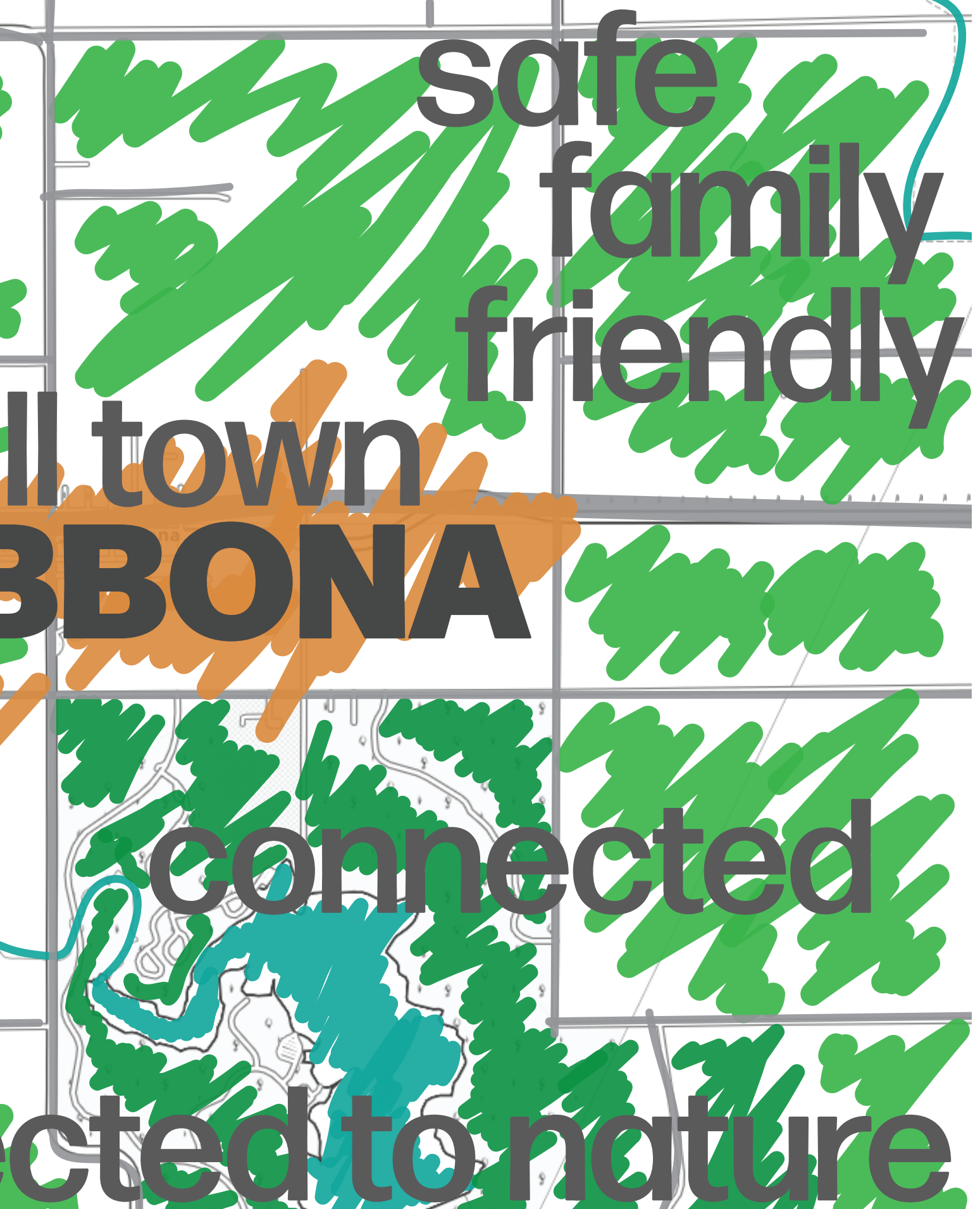


incremental
economic
development

smart
SHAE

agricultural
community

conne



safe
family
friendly

all town
BONA

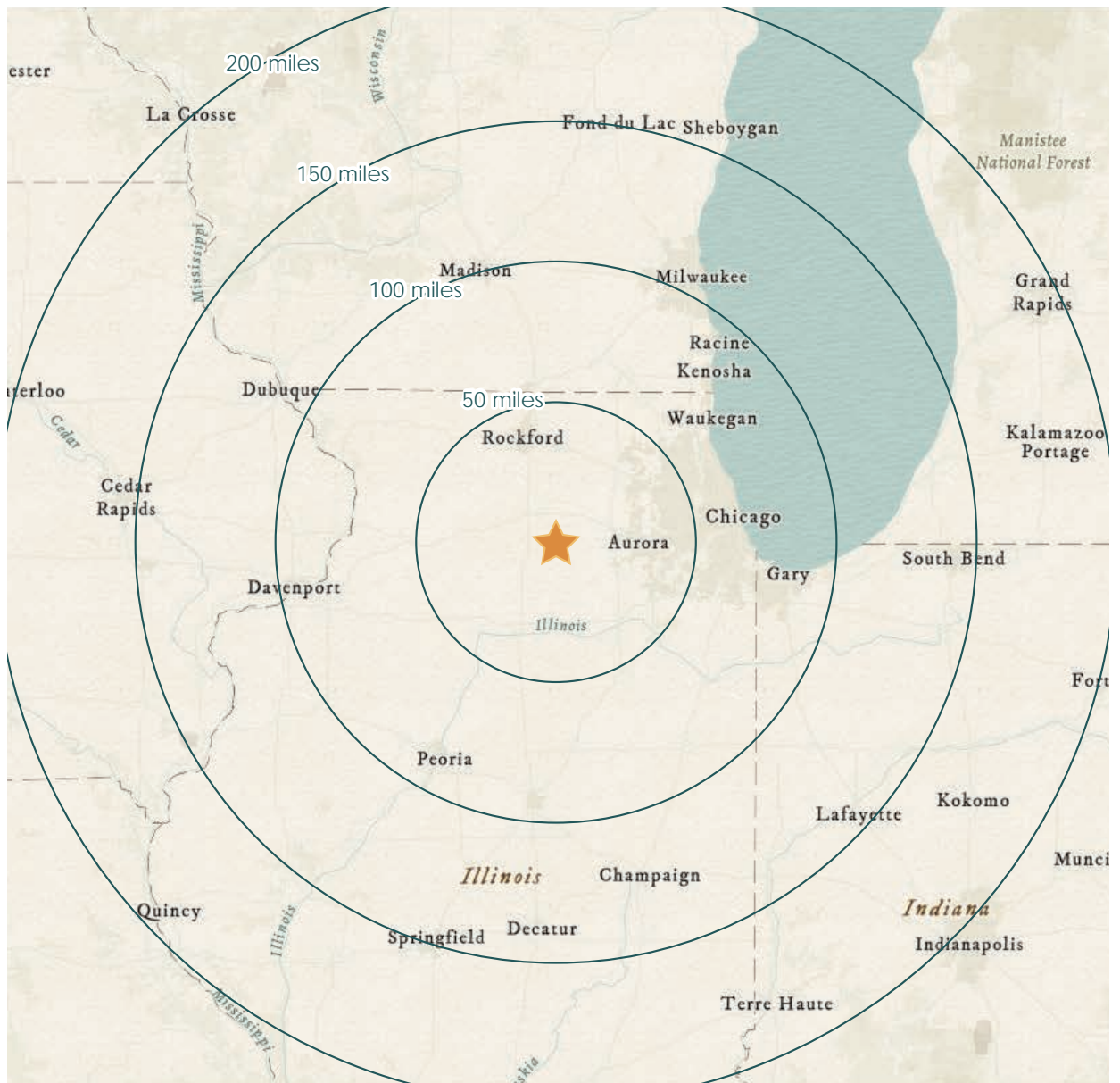
connected

ected to nature

Community Profile

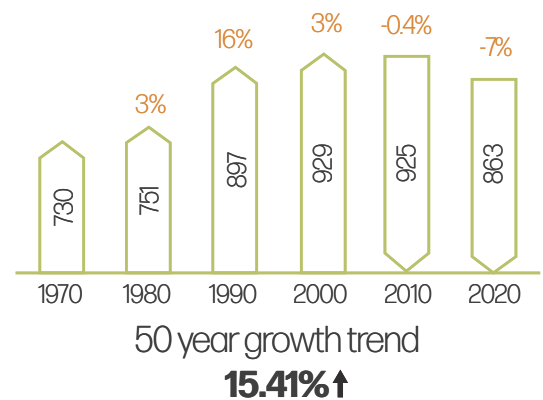
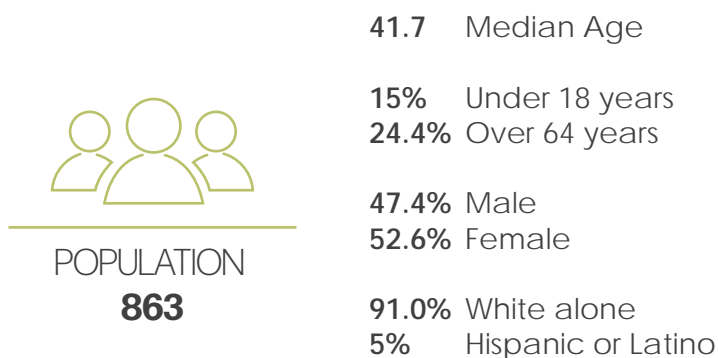
OVERVIEW

Shabbona is located 30 miles west of Aurora, on US 30, approximately 16 miles south of DeKalb and Northern Illinois University. It is within a days driving distance of Chicago and Indianapolis as well as several states including Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Iowa.

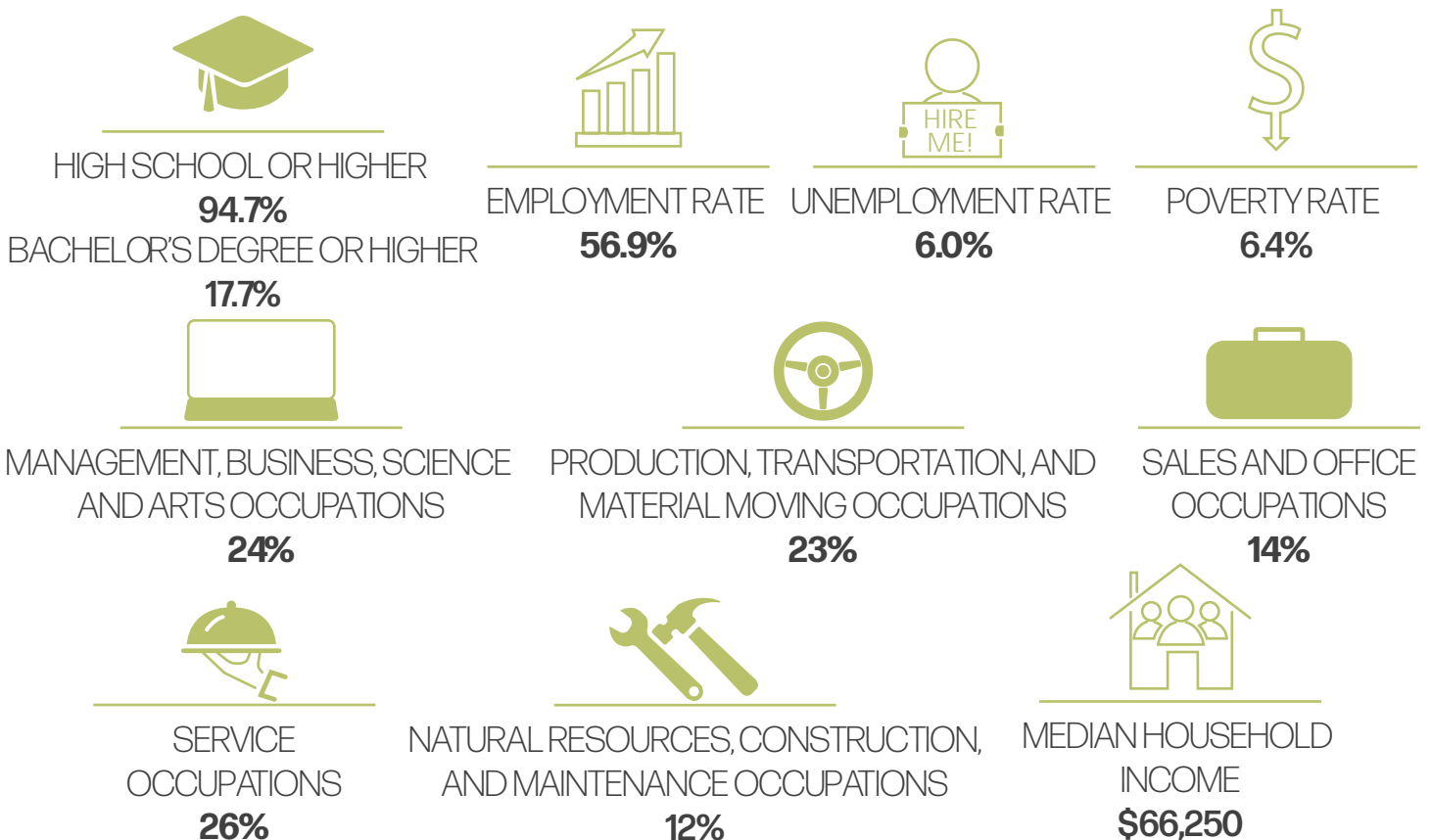


PEOPLE

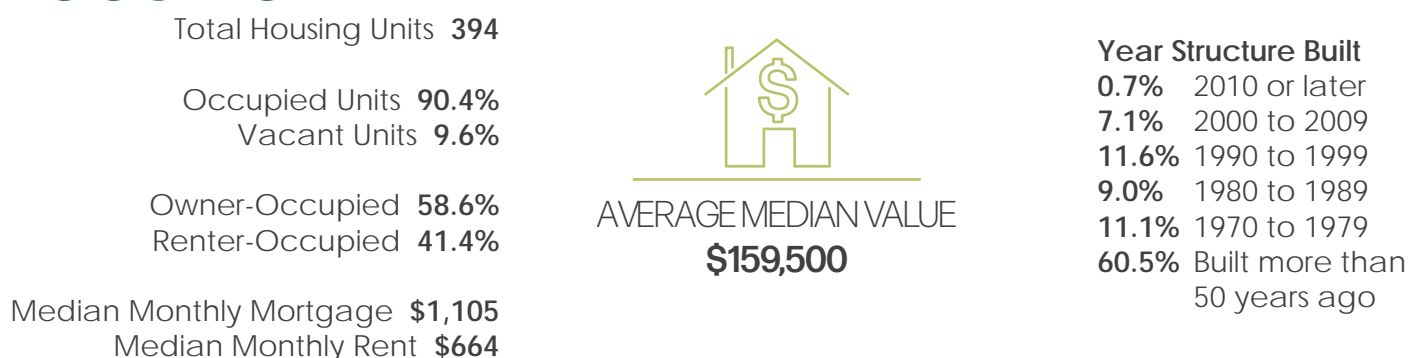
**The 2020 Census Data information should be "used with caution" as it was collected during a time of a global pandemic and results may not accurately reflect changes since the 2010 Census.*



EDUCATION, WORKFORCE + EARNINGS



HOUSING



The Big in 10 Years

While many excellent goals, objectives and actions were identified in the planning process, the following nine are THE PRIORITIES for the Village as they work to implement the Comprehensive Plan over the next 10 years. More specific and detailed objectives to meet the priority goals can be found within the Chapters that follow.

1 MARKET SHABBONA AS AN IDEAL, SMALL-TOWN LOCATION FOR FAMILIES, BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Shabbona will work to remain competitive through marketing the community as an ideal location for raising families, doing business and growing industry. To that end, Shabbona will involve an internal plan for operational communication strategies related to public service resources and opportunities and an external plan for tourism, business, housing, and industrial opportunities which Shabbona provides. All while maintaining our rural, small-town identity.

2 CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE MULTI-USE RECREATION PATHS

The Village of Shabbona wishes to more fully develop a multi-use path system within the community that also provides recreational connectivity to Shabbona Lake State Park. This will be accomplished through the implementation of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Plan, partnerships, and strategic funding pursuits. Achieving this goal will ensure a safer environment around Illinois Route 30 and connect popular amenities through a multi-modal network.

3 SUPPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE DOWNTOWN THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

In 2022, Shabbona embarked in a construction project which improved the downtown streetscape, increased parking, improved ADA accessibility, improved pedestrian crossings, and enhanced aesthetics and landscaping. This was accomplished through grant awards which demonstrate to private investors that their investments are appreciated and supported. Shabbona should build on this momentum and continue to improve the public realm through infrastructure enhancements, arts and culture, and gathering spaces.

4 REMEDIATE THE BROWNFIELD AND SUPERFUND SITES

The Village will work to identify Brownfield and Superfund sites within the Village and investigate the clean-up and re-use of these properties. These sites are opportunities to improve the aesthetics and property values within the Village.

CREATE A TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT

A Tax Increment Finance District is one of the few financial tools cities can leverage to encourage and support (re)development within their borders. The Village should work with a professional TIF advisor to set up and implement a TIF district to assist with (re)development within the Village, focusing on downtown and future commercial / industrial areas.

5

REMAIN CURRENT ON WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES AND RATES TO PROVIDE A HIGH LEVEL OF SERVICE

The Village should regularly review their user rates and fees to ensure the water and sanitary sewer systems are not only self-sufficient, but able to perform the necessary upgrades when needed. Additionally, by ensuring the self-sufficiency of the systems, the Village will no longer need to use general funds, freeing up funds for other capital expenditures.

6

INCREASE USAGE AND EXPAND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

The Village is very proud of its current parks and recreation facilities. The Village wants to encourage the use of these locations by the entire community. These facilities serve as social centers and foster community pride. Additionally, Shabbona is working to increase public facilities to the downtown area to accommodate increased traffic for commerce activities, Village/county business or office visits, and social events. The downtown is home to a collection of restaurant, retail, and service providers and serves as host to many community social events (festivals, band concerts, etc.) throughout the year.

7

CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR THE FLEWELLIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Shabbona Public Library is a well-used facility and has room to expand to accommodate the expected increase in usage by the community. The Library is frequented by individuals seeking to copy/lamination/fax services, DVD rentals, public computer use, entertainment programming, homebound Delivery (In-town) and Notary services. Children visit the Library after school to do homework and access the internet. Seniors come to read periodicals, learn how to navigate the web, and enjoy the people-filled atmosphere. Young families visit with small children to bring the excitement of reading into their lives at an early age. The Library currently offers many educational programs for all ages.

8

ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Village will work to encourage sustainable developments. These developments will decrease the impact of urban sprawl while making the most efficient use of Village infrastructure for maintenance and expansion. The Village will promote contiguous development and ensure prime agricultural lands are reserved for ag production for the local and regional economies.

9



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic development is realized through the growth and retention of jobs, a diverse business environment, an increase in buying power, built environment investment, and general improvement in the community's quality of life. Creating economic prosperity requires the collaborative efforts of public and private entities as well as community support. Shabbona will accomplish economic development prosperity through education, tourism retention and expansion, and regional growth.

To achieve these ends, Shabbona will collaborate extensively with other public and private entities as an active partner and will avoid duplication of services. Village "support" for identified efforts may include staff time, funding, policies, or simply endorsement.

☒ **GOAL 1: CREATE AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (501c(3))**

The Village and surrounding region would greatly benefit from a non-profit champion, leading the way to a better quality of life for small-town Shabbona.

☒ **Objective 1.1 | As an interim step, Shabbona shall join the DeKalb County Community Foundation**

- ☒ Foundation will create an endowment to help to raise money for projects and initiatives that assist in meeting the mission and goals of the corporation.

☒ **Objective 1.2 | Create a Board for the Corporation with a broad representation of stakeholders**

- ☒ Establish a mission statement that embodies small-town, high-quality life but also ties into importance of regional stability and growth. Invite stakeholders to elicit support and to become part of the mission.
- ☒ Have representation from every taxing body and vested interest group.

☒ **Objective 1.3 | Establish bylaws, goals, and objectives for the Corporation**

- ☒ Goals should harmonize with Village goals to ensure actions maintain the desired economic development and small town feel.
- ☒ Goals should be obtainable and garner the support of the entire Village

☐ **Objective 1.4 | Work with DeKalb County to create GIS map inventory of available properties in the Village of Shabbona**

- ☐ An inventory of available properties for development

☐ **Objective 1.5 | Seek fund raising opportunities**

- ☐ Initial focus on small fund raising events
- ☐ Railroad foundation grant programs
- ☐ Grant programs focused on Economic Development Corporations

☐ **GOAL 2: INCREASE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN SHABBONA**

☐ **Objective 2.1 | Capture tourism dollars generated by Shabbona Lake State Park**

The State Park presents significant opportunities to increase visitors into Shabbona for supplies, restaurants, shopping, and entertainment/events.

- ☐ Expand Shabbona's business district to include businesses which support tourism.

☐ **Objective 2.2 | Cultivate and attract new business**

- ☐ Promote a "can-do" business environment
- ☐ Encourage new commercial development to infill vacant properties

☐ **GOAL 3: MARKET SHABBONA AS AN IDEAL LOCATION FOR FAMILIES, BUSINESS, AND INDUSTRY**

Shabbona will work to remain competitive through marketing the community as an ideal location for raising families, doing business and growing industry. To that end, Shabbona should involve an internal plan for operational communication strategies related to public service resources and opportunities and an external plan for tourism, business, housing, and industrial opportunities which Shabbona provides.

☐ **Objective 3.1 | “Get away from it all”**

One of the keys to Shabbona’s economic development strategy is its quality of life and appeal as a rural town. This is particularly appealing to those families looking to move away from the hustle of the Chicago-Metro area and find a quiet, safe place with good schools and a higher quality of life.

☐ **Objective 3.2 | Continue to expand and refresh the content on the Village of Shabbona website.**

Often times a community’s website is the first place potential businesses and industries look when trying to learn more about a community and the benefits it has to offer. Existing businesses will often visit it as well to identify any assistance the Village offers if it is looking for resources.

- ☐ Review the options for the website platform which is more user-friendly.
- ☐ Include testimonials and other real life “marketing” pieces.
- ☐ Give potential business-owners a peek at market availability.
- ☐ Keep available vacant/available property list up to date on the GIS app.
- ☐ Highlight available utilities and infrastructure.

☐ **Objective 3.3 | Update the marketing strategy for business/industry retention and recruitment.**

Making regular retention visits is important to building relationships and keeping up-to-date on the needs of the business and industry community. These are also times to learn about the plans these companies have for the future and the challenges they face. The Village will continue these visits and will work to tailor the Village’s programs to meet these needs. Efforts should continually be pursued to educate individuals to send all economic development inquiries to the Village and the Chamber so they all receive the correct information.

- ☐ Create a new promotional video for the Village.

☐ **Objective 3.4 | Market Shabbona’s ideal logistics positioning and access to abundant and affordable utilities.**

The community is located along US 30 and the BNSF railroad line runs directly through. The community has access to abundant supplies of electric, natural gas, and potable water.

- ☐ The Village will work to market these infrastructure and utility assets in order to attract potential developments via the GIS app and website.

☐ **Objective 3.5 | Partner with DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation and Shabbona Chamber of Commerce, in efforts to jointly market the community as a prime business location.**

- ☐ Establish a marketing strategy with DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC) and the DeKalb County Convention and Visitors Bureau.
- ☐ Develop a joint marketing strategy.
- ☐ Develop packets of information to give to current and prospective businesses.
- ☐ Maintain communication on new and current projects.

☐ **Objective 3.6 | Expand marketing brand to include a more regional approach.**

Shabbona has the tourism draws of Shabbona State Park and Indian Oaks Country Club and should better partner with these entities to cross-market and capitalize on their regional successes. This should involve an internal plan for operational communication strategies related to public service resources and opportunities and an external plan for tourism, business, and industrial opportunities which Shabbona provides.

☐ **Objective 3.7 | Explore a marketing matching grant for businesses.**

Provide a direct way to alleviate the cost of advertising for local businesses, encourage those

who are not marketing to begin the effort, and create a more coordinated image of Shabbona through brand identity. Businesses should be encouraged to use marketing tactics such as social media, hosting special events, or targeted-market advertising.

- ☐ Work directly with Faculty, Staff, and Students at Northern Illinois University to create a quality business strategy for local businesses.
- ☐ Search for potential funding mechanisms including the Illinois Tourism Bureau Grant.
- ☐ Create strategic partnerships between the Village and the Local Businesses where appropriate.

☐ **GOAL 4: FOSTER RELATIONSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

Relationships are key to success in economic development endeavors. New developments are not the result of one person's labor- it is always a team effort noting the importance of building strong relationships.

☐ **Objective 4.1 | Continue to participate in regional economic development activities.**

The Economic Development Corporation should be involved with many regional and statewide organizations. This involvement is important in order to stay in the loop of events and activities taking place in surrounding towns and counties impacting Shabbona.

- ☐ Become active in the DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation, United Way, and/or the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, as feasible and appropriate.

☐ **Objective 4.2 | Continue to collaborate with other organizations within the Village of Shabbona.**

The Building Shabbona Together will remain in continuous contact with the School District #435, and other community entities and organizations. The Village will work to support the activities of this organization and identify ways to work together to meet the community's needs.

☐ **Objective 4.3 | Continue collaboration efforts with non-profit organizations.**

The Village has association with a number of non-profits locally. This collaboration should continue to ensure goals and objectives of the plan are met.

☒ **Community Input Highlights**

- Most respondents feel employment opportunities are lacking within Shabbona.
- Most feel secure with their current employment situation.
- Most support Shabbona committing funding to retain, attract and grow private sector businesses within the community.
- Most support financial incentive for local businesses and retail opportunities.
- Respondents were split with the statement "Shabbona is a good place to start a business."
- Respondents overwhelmingly describe the availability of places to shop in Shabbona as "lacking." They also find places to dine lacking and they often leave Shabbona to do their regular shopping.
- Respondents feel that more is needed of the following:
 - Convenience retail/services
 - General merchandise
 - Boutique and specialty retail
 - Apparel and shoe
 - Hardware and building supply (99%)
 - Fast-food and Sit-down
 - Grocery store (100%)

☐ **Objective 4.4 | Continue to engage in and embrace relationships and collaborative efforts with the schools, library, local & regional businesses, and other entities.**

☐ **Objective 4.5 | Work to connect local businesses with the schools to start a stream of communication and assist in school-to-work programs.**

The Village has strong ties with the local business community through its economic development efforts. The Village will use these relationships to assist in engaging these groups in conversations that will assist the schools in better preparing students for the real world and assist businesses in getting qualified personnel to fill positions.

☐ **Objective 4.6 | Continue a strong presence of collaborative conversations to find activities where the Village can further assist.**

A community's school system is very important to its development and future. The Village will remain in constant contact with the school institutions of higher education, and the trades, and stay involved in their endeavors so that it can aid wherever needed.

- ☐ Create programs that benefit the community and provide training for students.
- ☐ Welding and construction department for mass production items: Bike Racks, outdoor dining areas, holiday decorations, and public works of art such as sculptures.
- ☐ Art Department: Murals and public art.
- ☐ Education Department: Early education/day care at the school.

☐ **GOAL 5: RESOURCES FOR BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY SUCCESS**

The Village realizes it needs to continually work to meet the needs of the current and future businesses and industries in order to maintain a successful economic base.

☐ **Objective 5.1 | Continue to develop relationships with other agencies that provide resources to new or existing businesses.**

Many organizations, both regional and state, exist with a mission to assist businesses and industries with meeting their individual needs, whether that is reducing waste from an industrial production operation or assisting an entrepreneur in developing a business plan to start a new enterprise. The Village will continue to maintain a relationship with these organizations, including, but not limited to:

- ☐ Illinois Small Business Development Center
- ☐ SCORE
- ☐ Kishwaukee Community College
- ☐ Northern Illinois University
- ☐ DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC)

☐ **Objective 5.2 | Investigate the development of an Industrial Park on the west side of town.**

The Village of Shabbona currently does not have an industrial park. Industrial parks offer many benefits to tenants and can be a great marketing tool for attracting industrial development. The Village will speak with other communities who have had success with creating industrial parks and attracting industry because of it. Following this investigation, the Village will decide on whether or not this is a worthwhile development to pursue further.

☐ **Objective 5.3 | Encourage and promote services to grow and foster entrepreneurs.**

The Village of Shabbona's service and retail base is made up primarily of local entrepreneurs. The Village wishes to continue to encourage entrepreneurs to expand current businesses and to open up new businesses.

- ☐ The Village will work with other agencies in starting and promoting the business incubator.

- ☐ Share success stories of entrepreneurs who have started successful businesses in Shabbona.
- ☐ Implement a Small Business Bootcamp or Development Strategy to further educate and assist small businesses.
- ☐ Create a Business Retention Planning Strategy.
- ☐ Take advantage of regional Enterprise Zone incentives DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC).
- ☐ Strategically partner with allied organizations such as Northern Illinois University and local High School business classes.

☐ **Objective 5.4 | Capitalize on the existing industry base to attract new industry.**

- ☐ The Village will speak with current industries and inquire about their suppliers, which may lead to an opportunity for further development.
- ☐ The Economic Development Corporation will work to recruit complementary industries to the Village.

☐ **Objective 5.5 | Continue to maintain a relationship with economic development consultants to identify and pursue outside funding for projects.**

Certain development projects require the assistance of outside funding sources-usually through State and Federal programs. Gaining the assistance of a qualified professional to develop these applications for funding, as well as administering the projects, will assist the Village in being successful in these efforts and ensure all rules and regulations within the grant agreement are satisfied. Due to the large number of responsibilities already assigned to the Economic Development Corporation, it is often beneficial to hire an outside firm to lead these endeavors.

☐ **Objective 5.6 | Start an Annual Regional Marketing Summit to share ideas and deploy strategies.**

The marketing summit would convene all partners responsible for marketing the community in order to share strategies, team up where necessary, ensure there is no duplication in some situations, and coordinate the marketing of all partners. The summit would not try to dictate what each group does to market but rather to better coordinate many current disparate efforts.

- ☐ Include strategic partners for the summit, such as Shabbona, Waterman, Paw Paw, Hinkley, and DeKalb County

☐ **Objective 5.7 | Host Semi-Annual Tours for business owners/stakeholders.**

These would be a series of walkabouts and tours for the purpose of networking, education, and promotion.

- ☐ Existing business / industry tours. This “walkabout” would allow attendees to see what each business offers in order to better provide references to potential customers.
- ☐ Vacant buildings and sites. This walkabout would focus on vacant properties to show potential to growing businesses, industries, and new businesses and industries with the intent of inspiring investment.
- ☐ These should have a regional draw and participation.
- ☐ Strategically partner with local businesses, industries, entrepreneurs and developers.

☐ **Objective 5.8 | Explore ways to compete with online retail sales.**

The Village should focus on niche markets. These include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Locally made goods and products
- ☐ Services



2023 Downtown Streetscape Improvements (under construction 2022/2023)

☐ Objective 5.9 | Shabbona's Development Committee should lead the charge in meeting with developers and industries.

This will require a focused and pointed effort on the behalf of the committee.

- ☐ Strategically partner with DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation, Local Developers, Existing Industries, Regional Efforts, Neighboring Communities, etc.

☐ Objective 5.10 | Align all development efforts with long-term goals.

The Village will work to align all development efforts with the long-range goals of the Village to ensure that both the businesses/industries and the Village will remain successful. Considerations include:

- ☐ Existing and future land use.
- ☐ Compatible uses.
- ☐ Existing infrastructure to support the new development.
- ☐ Environmental factors.
- ☐ Available workforce.

☐ GOAL 6: SUPPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE DOWNTOWN THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

In July 2021, Shabbona was awarded \$1,337,450 ITEP grant for the downtown streetscape improvements, increased parking, ADA accessibility, improved pedestrian crossings, and aesthetics and landscaping completed two phases of Downtown Streetscape improvements and has one more underway. Grant awards such as this demonstrate to private investors that their investments are appreciated and supported.

☐ Objective 6.1 | Continue to enhance and improve the downtown built environment.

- ☐ Install festival lights throughout the Downtown in alleyways and public spaces.
- ☐ Install a decorative arch or pillars welcoming residents and guests into the downtown.
- ☐ Continue and encourage the adopt-a-planter program to increase landscaping throughout the downtown and soften the hardscape.
- ☐ Create public gathering spaces of all sizes to promote a sense of community. These can

be improved alleyways; pocket parks; outdoor dining; etc.

☐ **Objective 6.2 | Expand community arts and culture.**

- ☐ Join or create an art rental program with other communities to introduce sculptures to the streetscape.
- ☐ Collaborate with local artists on a sidewalk art project.
- ☐ Introduce live music events.

☐ **Objective 6.3 | Enforce ground floor use for retail and services, not residential or storage.**

- ☐ Discourage ground floors in the downtown business district to be used as residential units or storage facilities. These are valuable spaces that should be used for retail and services to enhance the vitality of Downtown Shabbona.
- ☐ Consider requiring at least 30% of the ground floor walls of a building to be transparent.
- ☐ Discourage the use of curtains and boards which block views into the ground floor.
- ☐ Encourage building owners to take the Tour of Opportunity (See Objective 5.9)

☐ **GOAL 7: IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE ELEMENTS WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN**

☐ **Objective 7.1 | Introduce and expand festivals and celebrations in the downtown to grow community pride.**

- ☐ Purchase or rent a temporary ice rink for Purdy Park during the winter months.
- ☐ Continue to support the Holiday Festival.
- ☐ Create new, unique festivals to attract visitors from around the region.

☐ **Objective 7.2 | Celebrate Shabbona's heritage through heritage tourism.**

- ☐ Support special tours that celebrate Shabbona's history and foster community pride.
- ☐ Create a strategic partnership with the Public Affairs Committee.
- ☐ Support the Shabbona-Lee-Rollo Museum

☐ **GOAL 8: REMEDIATE THE BROWNFIELD AND SUPERFUND SITES**

Identify Brownfield and Superfund sites within the Village and investigate the clean-up and re-use of these properties.

☐ **Objective 8.1 | Identify sites.**

Continuously identify sites that are abandoned or underutilized industrial or commercial facilities available for re-use which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Maintain information on these sites that is readily accessible in case a private developer is interested in the properties.

- ☐ List these as a new layer on the Village's GIS Application on the cleanup website.
- ☐ Seek cleanup / remediation funding from the EPA ARC Assessment Grant
- ☐ Partner with the Kansas State University Technical Assistance Brownfield (TAB) program on education and funding of these sites.

☐ **Objective 8.2 | Search for opportunities to develop properties.**

When working with new or relocating businesses, promote these properties among all others as potential sites for (re)development if the sites have been cleared. If these properties still require remediation, work with property owners to encourage clean up and redevelopment.

☐ GOAL 9: MARKETING SHABBONA SCHOOLS AS AN ASSET

The Village of Shabbona has an excellent school system valued by the residents. While it is its own taxing body and not controlled by the Village, it is a huge community asset which adds to the high quality of life.

☐ Objective 9.1 | Share Shabbona School success stories.

The Village should partner with the schools to publicize some of the success stories of the School District. The Village should work to circulate press releases and post stories or testimonials on its website or through social media.

☐ Objective 9.2 | Market Shabbona's location to fine educational institutions.

The Village will include in its promotional materials information on the local school district as well as information about the surrounding secondary education institutions.

☐ GOAL 10: PROMOTE JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE REGION

☐ Objective 10.1 | Create and maintain a Job Postings page.

The Village will set up a community job postings page on the website for local business and industries to post job opening information. This information can be used to show students and those outside Shabbona what type of opportunities exist nearby. Alternatively, this could be done by the Economic Development Corporation or with DeKalb County EDC.

- ☐ Consider partnering with DeKalb County Economic Development to post Village/regional opportunities as they arise.

☐ Objective 10.2 | Share stories of those who have been successful in securing careers in Shabbona.

The job postings page could also be used to share success stories of those who went away to college and moved back to Shabbona and found a great job, those who relocated to Shabbona from another area, or those who got a great job in Shabbona/the area after high school.

☐ GOAL 11: ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE ALL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES WITHIN SHABBONA

Many organizations offer educational sessions for children and adults of all ages and abilities. Currently there is not a central location to advertise these. The Village would like to work to remedy this issue so more residents can be informed of the many opportunities before them.

☐ Objective 11.1 | Continually look for unmet needs of youth and communicate them to the appropriate organizations.

The Village is always looking for opportunities to create an increased quality of life and opportunities for its residents, and in particular, its future generations. The Village will communicate any unmet needs with organizations that are committed to the cause communicated in hopes that these needs will be met.

☐ GOAL 12: EVALUATE CURRENT INCENTIVES AND ADD NEW INCENTIVES

☐ Objective 12.1 | Evaluate current incentives on a yearly basis and make changes as necessary.

The Village tracks the use of each of their programs. These programs are reviewed annually in order to prepare the budget for the next year's program. The Village will re-evaluate under-utilized programs and revise, discontinue or replace them to align with the current needs.

- ☐ Create and implement a facade improvement program for downtown businesses. Similar programs across the nation have proven effective in enhancing the look of the community as well as assisting small businesses be more successful.
- ☐ Create a dumpster grant program for small businesses. This rebate program is effective when helping property owners clean up properties. Could be funded by code enforcement fines.

☐ **Objective 12.2 | Explore creating a small business loan program.**

The Village has identified a need for a small loan program (cap to be determined) for potential and existing businesses for purchasing equipment and making repairs or renovations.

- ☐ The Village will explore the option of creating a loan program to serve the needs of the businesses that fall into this category. This could be implemented with a TIF program.

☐ **Objective 12.3 | Explore creating an energy efficiency program for businesses and industries.**

Utility bills account for a large part of business and industry operating costs. There are many ways these entities can improve their facilities in order to decrease these costs. The Village will explore providing some type of energy efficiency program to incentives these upgrades.

- ☐ Possible Funding Option: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency - Energy Efficiency Grants

☐ **Objective 12.4 | Continuously search for grant and funding opportunities.**

Various state and federal agencies regularly release funding opportunities for units of government.

- ☐ Possible Funding Options: Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
- ☐ Back to Business
- ☐ Regional Economic Development
- ☐ Small Business Services
- ☐ Employment and Training
- ☐ Minority, Veteran & Woman Owned Business Resources

☐ **Objective 12.5 | Create a series of promotional media and publications.**

Create educational media on the benefits of the various incentives available including the Enterprise Zone, the future TIF District, and the Village's own incentive programs.

☐ **GOAL 13: CREATE A TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT**

A Tax Increment Finance District is one of the few financial tools cities can leverage to encourage and support (re)development within their borders.

☐ **Objective 13.1 | Hire a professional TIF advisor.**

A professional TIF advisor can help the Village establish a redevelopment plan for the Village of Shabbona. The redevelopment plan should cover improvements to existing structures, new development, and infrastructure improvements in blighted areas.

- ☐ Strategic Partners: All taxing bodies within the Village Limits.



HOUSING + CODE ENFORCEMENT

As a Village strategically grows and changes, the housing must also change to meet the needs of the population. While the Village is not directly responsible for the development of housing, this chapter is included in the comprehensive plan to provide guidance for decision-makers and developers when considering additions to and renovations of the Village's housing stock. Diversity, quality, expansion, and maintenance are essential to the future of the housing stock in Shabbona. Additionally, code enforcement for the maintenance and upkeep of properties is critical to quality of life for Shabbona residents.

☐ GOAL 14: REHABILITATING, REMODELING, AND REMEDYING CURRENT HOUSING STOCK

As with any community, Shabbona's current housing stock is aging. Continual maintenance and upgrades must occur in order for the housing to remain safe and habitable. When properties are not maintained, after a certain point, these properties are no longer structurally sound and serve as an eyesore and a safety concern for the community.

☐ Objective 14.1 | Review, revise, and enforce maintenance codes.

The Village will continuously review the current maintenance codes for residential property upkeep and appearance, revise if necessary, and begin to enforce.

- ☐ Explore employing a Code Enforcement Officer for the Village.
- ☐ Focus on Route 30/Shabbona Road.
- ☐ Create a landlord accountability program.
- ☐ Explore methods to inform and educate property owners on the importance and value of code compliance.

☐ Objective 14.2 | Explore and provide incentives, including tax breaks, for residential property owners to make improvements.

The Village will work to create incentives that would encourage property owners to increase their homes' energy efficiency and appearance and to demolish dilapidated housing structures.

- ☐ Create a volunteer program for the cleanup of derelict properties. This could be a great opportunity to assist older residents who are incapable of complying with code requirements.
- ☐ Create an incentive program for owners to clean up their properties. Some of these programs can include tax increase for vacant properties.
- ☐ Continue to prohibit ground floor residential occupancy in the Downtown.
- ☐ Create a Loft Housing Program for Downtown.
- ☐ Especially encourage and celebrate the restoration of older, historic homes that give Shabbona some of its charm and small town feel.

☐ Objective 14.3 | Consider creating a Housing Plan for Shabbona.

Many concerns revolving around housing should be investigated more fully and from there, a plan of action should be created. These housing plans can also lead to funding possibilities through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

☐ Objective 14.4 | Appropriate funds yearly to condemn housing structures.

The Village will work to create a program for condemning homes. It is in the Village's best interest for the property owners to demolish these homes, therefore the Village will work with the property owners first and try to encourage this activity prior to incurring condemnation expenses.

- ☐ Care should be taken to preserve existing historic structures whenever possible. This will assist with continuing the desired "small town" feel.

☒ Objective 14.5 | Develop a plan for remedying issues with vacant properties.

- ☐ The Village will work to derive a plan of action to rid the community of vacant, problem properties.
- ☐ The Village will work to develop a list of options to remedy issues, and identify which circumstances call for each of the options outlined.

☐ **Objective 14.6 | Identify outside funding sources to assist in housing rehabilitation efforts.**

The Village will work to identify funding sources for housing rehabilitation programs. Such programs currently exist through the Illinois Housing Development Authority and through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

☐ **Objective 14.7 | Explore the creation of an apprenticeship program.**

There are opportunities to educate and arm the next generation of Shabbonaites through an apprenticeship program.

- ☐ Possible Partnership: Kishwaukee Community College, School District Construction, Welding, Electronics and Mechanics Programs, and Local Trades Unions.

☐ **GOAL 15: PROVIDE DIVERSE HOUSING OPTIONS INCLUDING OBTAINABLE, QUALITY HOUSING**

The Village of Shabbona will work to maintain a diverse mix of housing options available to meet current and future demands. As the Village's population changes demographically and quantitatively, housing will need to be adjusted to best suit the community's needs.

☐ **Objective 15.1 | Increase the amount of single-family housing units in the Village.**

The Village will investigate areas where new developments are best suited, work to expand public infrastructure to these targeted areas, and consider incentives such as waiving utility connection fees or reducing building permit fees.

- ☐ Small subdivisions of 10-15 single-family units mixed with higher density duplex/triplex associated.
- ☐ Encourage local lending agencies to implement down payment assistance program for 1st time home buyers.
- ☐ Work with realtors, lenders, and the public library to create a homeownership 101 class to educate and assist residents.

☐ **Objective 15.2 | Increase the amount of multi-family units in the Village.**

The Village will investigate areas where new developments are best suited, work to expand public infrastructure to these targeted areas, and work with developers to identify potential funding options through state and federal agencies.

- ☐ As developers propose housing development, encourage the implementation of rental units across all income levels. This is especially important for younger generations with
- ☐ Strategically seek developers for a 55+ housing development so that aging generations can stay in the community.
- ☐ Partner with local DeKalb County Regional Planning Commission and their efforts in the region.

☐ **Objective 15.3 | Consider the creation of a Housing Committee.**

The Village will consider the creation of a Housing Committee to explore housing programs and initiatives for the Village when moving forward with future housing decisions.

☐ **Objective 15.4 | Continue to review and revise the Zoning Ordinance as needed.**

The Village will review and revise the current Zoning Ordinance to remedy constraints this ordinance puts on new construction projects.

- ☐ Provide education and outreach on the existing ordinances and proposed changes via social media and the quarterly utility billing newsletter.
- ☐ Establish a policy to ensure a set percentage of new housing developments are at an obtainable level for lower incomes

☐ **Objective 15.5 | Rehabilitate and maintain historic homes within Shabbona**

- ☐ Work to access grant money to rehabilitate historic residences within the community.



☒ Community Input Highlights

- 91% of respondents own a home in Shabbona while 9% rent their home.
- Nearly 50% of respondents agree that Housing quality is the most important way to improve housing in Shabbona.
- Respondents agree that there should be a focus on improving existing housing as well as increasing single-family housing.
- New housing should be located within or adjacent to existing Village boundaries or anywhere there are suitable sites available.



MOBILITY + TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is an essential aspect of life. It is about the ability for ALL residents to readily and safely gain access to work, school, shopping, recreation, medical care, and social gatherings. It is also an essential component of most economic activity. The Village of Shabbona recognizes the need to create and maintain a transportation system that is efficient and accessible for all users.

☐ GOAL 16: INCREASE SAFETY ALONG ROUTE 30

The Village has already implemented some traffic calming measures such as bump outs and crosswalks along Route 30 through the new streetscaping project. Continuing similar efforts throughout the town is paramount to a safe and efficient system.

- ☐ Seek grant funding sources such as ITEP, Safe Routes to Schools, and Safe Streets for All for further implementation of the efforts.

☐ GOAL 17: PROVIDE SAFE, EFFICIENT, RELIABLE, AND WELL MAINTAINED MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

- ☐ Objective 17.1 | Develop safe routes for children traveling to and from school including sidewalks, bike ways, crosswalks, and improvements to Railroad Crossing

- ☐ Implement sidewalk programs to evaluate and identify opportunities for repair/replacement.
- ☐ Ensure all repair/replacement adheres to ADA standards.

- ☐ Objective 17.2 | Work to construct additional sidewalks where none exist to complete the sidewalk network within Shabbona.

The Village will continue with a yearly allotment toward sidewalk replacement. The goal is to eventually have all sidewalks be at least four feet wide and the system to be community-wide to increase and encourage walkability.

- ☐ Objective 17.3 | Encourage the development of neighborhoods that are oriented towards multi-modal use and are well-served by sidewalks and bicycle routes that are designed to connect to adjacent developments, schools, parks, shopping areas, and existing or planned facilities.

As new neighborhoods and subdivisions are created, ensure they are well designed to encourage safe mobility in and around the Village.

- ☐ Objective 17.4 | Ensure Village facilities are compliant with ADA requirements.

- ☐ Construct all new Village facilities (structures, sidewalks, etc.) in accordance with ADA requirements.
- ☐ Identify areas where sidewalks, curb cuts and crosswalks are not ADA compliant and create a corrective action plan.

☐ GOAL 18: ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR THE ACQUISITION, PROTECTION, AND PRESERVATION OF EXISTING AND FUTURE RIGHTS-OF-WAY

- ☐ Objective 18.1 | Work with the County and State to identify future routes for all transportation networks

- ☐ Objective 18.2 | Update and maintain future network maps to ensure continuity and implementation

☐ GOAL 19: PROTECTION OF TRAFFIC AND LAND USE PATTERNS WITHIN THE VILLAGE DUE TO POTENTIAL RAILROAD CROSSING CLOSURES

- ☐ Objective 19.1 | Work with the railroad in identifying critical paths for protection of essential services and safety access.

☐ GOAL 20: TRANSPORTATION ROUTES WILL BE AESTHETICALLY FUNCTIONAL AND BECOME A VISUALLY VITAL PART OF THE COMMUNITY

- ☐ Objective 20.1 | Replace sidewalks, curbs and gutters throughout in conjunction with other infrastructure improvements to fully upgrade the system

Growing the sidewalk and multi-path network will provide a quality of life amenity that has benefits for the health of the residents as well as the sustainability of the community.

- ☐ Objective 20.2 | Require landscaping, ornamental fencing and other aesthetically enhancing features along primary corridors

Features such as landscaping, fencing and artwork provide a sense of place and entice traffic to slow down and see what is happening.

- ☐ Identify areas for enhancement and collaborate with property owners on improvements.
 - These improvements should reflect the values of Shabbona

☐ GOAL 21: COORDINATE WITH REGIONAL ENTITIES TO EXPLORE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS THAT COULD HELP TO SERVE SHABBONA AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Potential statewide transportation partners that could assist with Shabbona's transportation needs include Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Rural Transit Assistance Center, Illinois Public Transportation Association, and First Transit (Medicaid Broker)

☐ GOAL 22: LOCAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS WILL BE WELL COORDINATED WITH REGIONAL SYSTEMS AND INVESTMENTS

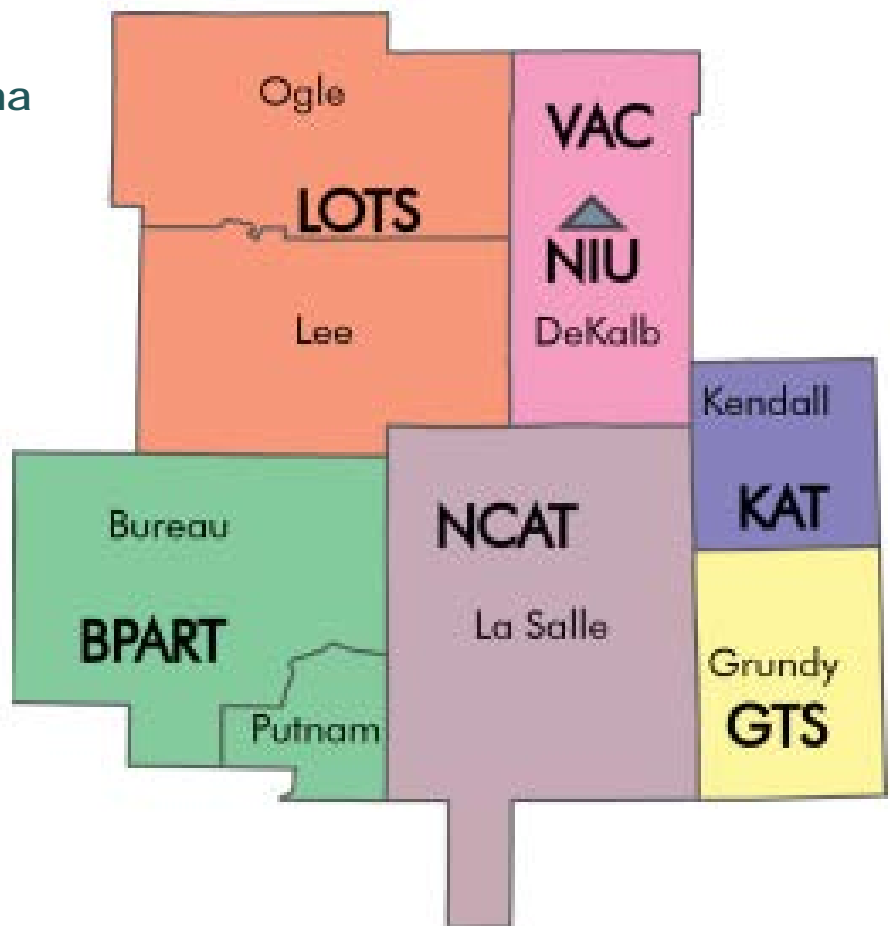
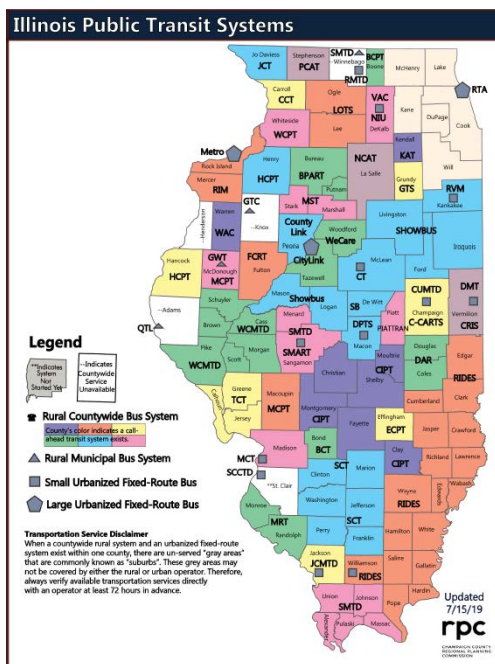
- ☐ Shabbona will coordinate with DeKalb County on future bus transportation routes to and from the Village.

Community Input Highlights

- Improve bike and pedestrian facilities – Top 4 ways to improve Quality of Life
- Bicycling/Walking Paths were rated poorly.
- State Highways were rated poor quality.

HSTP Region 3

- ▲ Rural Municipal Bus System
- No service in Shabbona





PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE + UTILITIES

Local government is responsible for a broad array of essential services such as sanitary sewer service, stormwater management, water supply, wastewater treatment, and technologies. The quality, efficacy, and efficiency of these services have a direct relationship to quality of life for residents. While each of these services is individually managed and monitored, they are considered in the comprehensive plan to ensure that investment in these services serves the overall vision for the Village. The overarching themes of the plan for these services are high quality, efficiency, and equity.

☐ **GOAL 23: DEVELOP AND UPDATE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS**

Currently many policies are in place to guide many aspects of the administration and oversight of the Village's infrastructure systems. However, some policies are not in place and many need refreshed or updated. These policies and procedures should be reviewed and revised on a regularly scheduled basis.

☐ **Objective 23.1 | Continue the Notice Of Assessment Policy. (Ord 7-1-5, E)**

The Village should review this policy regularly and make necessary changes as needed.

☐ **Objective 23.2 | Continue enforcement of the "Turned-Off" Policy.**

The Village should continue to revisit this policy and revise as needed.

☐ **Objective 23.3 | Continue to evaluate infrastructure systems for improvements.**

Most infrastructure is underground, therefore out of sight and out of mind. The Village will work to continually evaluate these systems and make repairs to save itself from expensive emergency situations that could have been prevented through an assessment process.

☐ **Objective 23.4 | Continue to maintain a Capital Improvement Plan.**

The Village will maintain a Capital Improvement Plan for all capital projects and large equipment purchases. This Plan will be revisited every two years or earlier if needed. This 5 to 10-year Plan will assist the Village in budgeting for future costly projects. It will also allow the Village to identify and pursue other sources of funding for projects in the program.

☐ **Objective 23.5 | Continue to develop a yearly maintenance program for each of the infrastructure systems.**

All infrastructure must be maintained and must be compliant with State and Federal regulations. The Village will allocate funds yearly for these projects. Many maintenance programs are already in place, but each should be reviewed regularly to assess whether current allotments are realistic in keeping up with the maintenance needs. Along with maintenance to systems come system updates and inventory control. These updates should be budgeted for as well, such as light pole numbering, transferring farm taps to regulator stations, replacing copper lines with triplex, and separating the storm sewer from the sanitary sewer.

☐ **Objective 23.6 | Maintain cash reserves in utility accounts.**

The Village will maintain cash reserves to fund future projects identified in the Capital Improvement Plan and for emergency projects.

☐ **Objective 23.7 | Create a work order database.**

The Village will create a work order database that will provide an electronic means of creating, updating, and filing work orders. This will assist all staff in answering customer inquiries and submitting orders to the appropriate individual for addressing.

☐ **Objective 23.8 | Create an Energy Efficiency Program for low-income residences.**

The Village will investigate partnering with other organizations to develop a program to assist low-income homeowners in decreasing their energy consumption.

☐ **Objective 23.9 | Digitize and continually update Operation and Maintenance Manuals.**

The Village will set a policy to remain compliant with regulatory agencies in updating O&M Manuals. These documents will be located on the Village server in a shared location.

☐ **Objective 23.10 | Continue to perform rate studies at regular intervals.**

The Village will perform rate studies on all utilities on a regularly scheduled interval. These studies will assist the Village in decision-making processes when it comes to future increases.

☐ **Objective 23.11 | Continue to search and identify outside sources to assist in financing infrastructure projects.**

The Village will continue to search for funding options to assist in financing expensive infrastructure projects. These funding opportunities often change from year to year. The Village will work with outside agencies to stay abreast of these changes and continually work to communicate the needs of the Village with these agencies.

- ☐ Possible Funding Options: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Commerce, and Economic opportunity, Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Program (PWEAA) and Economic Opportunity, USDA Rural Development

☐ **GOAL 24: MAKE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS TO DECREASE FLOODING**

Execute projects to improve public infrastructure and remedy problems occurring on public property to mitigate against future flooding issues threatening health and safety.

☐ **Objective 24.1 | Continue with Sewer Separation and Improvement Project.**

The Village will continue with the sewer separation projects until all sewers are no longer combined. The Village of Shabbona has a combined storm/sanitary sewer system that potentially surcharges during heavy rains. The surcharged effluent is a mixture of storm and sanitary water which floods roadways, yards, basements, and crawlspaces. This is a serious threat to health and safety. Most of the existing system has six inch sewer main lines and these will need to be upgraded to eight inch to be compliant with IEPA requirements.

- ☐ Possible Funding: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

☐ **Objective 24.2 | Investigate combined sewers and derive a Conditional Assessment Report.**

CCTV and inspect manholes and pipes to identify problem areas within the combined sewer system. Following the investigation, develop a conditional assessment report and use it to rank and budget for system repairs. This will greatly alleviate overages during the separation projects, as the Village will be aware of problems beforehand instead of making discovery during construction. Continue this investigative process on a 5-year cycle in order to continually assess and maintain the sewer system.

☐ **Objective 24.3 | Reconstruct streets to alleviate surface water flooding.**

Identify possible street reconstruction projects where the current roadway conditions are contributing to the flooding of residential properties. Intersections with known flooding such as Illini Street and Navajo Street, and Apache Street east of Illini Street should be addressed to protect public safety, property and infrastructure.

- ☐ Possible Funding Options: Federal Emergency Management Agency

☐ **GOAL 25: PROTECT AND IMPROVE THE VILLAGE'S WATER SUPPLY**

Continue implementing measures to protect the wells from weather related damage and derive a contingency plan in case of future water supply contamination.

☐ **Objective 25.1 | Monitor for contaminants for well system.**

Continue to test for contaminants in Well 5 and 6 and maintain contaminant mitigation systems already in place. Evaluate and improve mitigation systems when needed to ensure protection of the current water supply.

☐ **Objective 25.2 | Bury primary electric to the wells.**

Currently the power lines for wells 5 and 6 are above ground and are susceptible to interruption, damage due to weather events. Bury the primary electric to the wells 5 and 6 to prevent future electrical failures to the wells.

☐ Possible Funding: Federal Emergency Management Agency

☐ **Objective 25.3 | Maintain the water tower.**

The current water tower has been in operation since the 1960s and has been well maintained and has enough capacity to meet daily usage and IEPA regulations. Continued maintenance/inspection of the water tower will ensure future operation for many years to come.

☐ **Objective 25.4 | Develop a Contingency Plan.**

Consider alternate sources of water and delivery methods in preparation for an event that would cause the Village to lose its entire water supply. Currently, water for the Village is provided from Wells 5 and 6 in combination with the water tower. Shabbona does have 200,000 gallons of storage in its single elevated water tower, which is more than one day's worth of water consumption.

☐ **GOAL 26: COORDINATE WITH LOCAL AGENCIES**

Coordination with various agencies in the region will work to strengthen Shabbona and its goals and objectives.

☐ **Objective 26.1 | Perform Drainage Study on natural drainage discharge area.**

Coordinate with local agencies to perform a drainage study on the natural drainage discharge area located to provide suggested remedies.

☐ **Objective 26.2 | Work with Shabbona Township and DeKalb County to make drainage improvements.**

Continue to work with the township and the county to improve any known drainage issues in the area.

☐ **Objective 26.3 | Perform Drainage Study on intersections of Illini Street and Navaho Street, and Apache Street east of Illini Street.**

Perform a drainage study to investigate the flooding issues and contributing factors.

☐ **Objective 26.4 | Support the development of controls outside of Village limits.**

Support the county if they choose to investigate an ordinance that would require developers to submit a site plan for county review and approval prior to building a multi-family, commercial, or industrial structure. Partner with the county in reviewing these plans when the property lies adjacent to the Village Limits to ensure the plan accounts for proper drainage. DeKalb county does have a land use ordinance in place; therefore, plans submitted for review and approval must adhere to appropriate guidelines set therein.

☐ **GOAL 27: CONTINUE TO MITIGATE AGAINST FLOOD EVENTS**

Identify causes of flooding in other areas not already addressed in previous objectives and train Village staff on the IEMA Public Assistance Program.

☐ **Objective 27.1 | Investigate other flood prone areas.**

Determine if surcharging of the sewer system is the cause.

☐ **Objective 27.2 | Implement solutions to flooding issues.**

Once the causes of flooding are identified, plan to remedy the issue as funding availability allows. Prioritize flooding areas based on severity and begin implementing fixes on the most severe.

☐ Possible Funding Options: Federal Emergency Management Agency

☐ **Objective 27.3 | Train Village staff on IEMA Public Assistance Program.**

Designate Village Staff to be trained on the IEMA Public Assistance Program. Local governments are responsible for performing an Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) to identify damages, costs, and impacts after a disaster or emergency incident occurs. The assessors should be trained to perform the assessment correctly and understand the process of major disaster declarations and the work required to receive assistance for damages through FEMA.



Water System

☐ GOAL 28: REMAIN CURRENT ON WATER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADES AND PROVIDE A HIGH LEVEL OF SERVICE TO SHABBONA

☐ Objective 28.1 | Replace wells that become damaged or no longer operate within acceptable IEPA parameters

The Village will replace wells if they become damaged or fail to operate within the guidelines specified by the IEPA. The Village will continue to maintain an adequate water supply.

☐ Possible Funding Options: FEMA HMGP, IEPA, USDA RD, CDBG PI

☐ Objective 28.2 | Make necessary updates or improvements to provide a high level of service to heavy water users.

The Village will work with local heavy users in addressing their needs to ensure quality service.

☐ Objective 28.3 | Install radio read meters.

The Village will set a yearly budget for installing radio read meters so that meters can be read remotely.

☐ Objective 28.4 | Continue to utilize the IEPA Revolving Loan Program.

This program has already helped with critical infrastructure and the community and should continue to do so.

☐ Funding: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Revolving Loan Program.

☐ Objective 28.5 | Convert all meters to Auto Read.

This will improve accuracy and save time and money for Village Staff.

☐ Objective 28.6 | Remove all Lead and Copper Lines within the community.

These material lines can be detrimental to the health of the community and should be removed and replaced immediately.

☐ Funding: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Revolving Loan Program.

☐ Objective 28.7 | Construct additional wells or water tower.

As Shabbona grows the need for water storage and access does as well. A new ground well and or water tower will aid in the community growth in the future.

☐ Objective 28.8 | Continue to construct loop feeds in the water system.

Looping the water system provides for better pressure and higher quality water for the community.

Sewer System

☐ GOAL 29: REMAIN CURRENT ON SEWER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADES

☐ Objective 29.1 | Comply with regulations and EPA codes.

The Village will work to ensure that all sanitary and sewer water is disposed of in the appropriate manner through a compliant system.

☐ Objective 29.2 | Continue to update the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to include added functionality.

The Village will continue to update SCADA so Village staff can monitor the sewer system more effectively and efficiently.

☐ Objective 29.3 | Develop a sewer maintenance program utilizing the information captured from assessment of the lines and manholes.

The Village should undergo a full evaluation of the current conditions of the existing sewer and storm water system. This evaluation will serve as a template to begin the development of a maintenance program that targets critical needs areas for any future capital funding programs.

☐ Objective 29.4 | Investigate improvements to current three-cell aerated lagoon system.

The current lagoon system has 120,000 gallons per day capacity and a design maximum flow of 887,000 gallons per day. Due to the limited daily average flow justification for a new WWTP is not warranted at this however, facility size and capacity levels should be evaluated to determine current and future growth needs.

☐ Partner with TEST, Inc (WWTP provider), IEPA

☐ Objective 29.5 | Investigate ways to recycle the water from the lagoons and develop the lagoon area into a wetland or park.

The Village will identify communities who have been successful in these types of sustainable projects and discuss feasibility for implementing such a project in the community.

☐ Possible Funding Options: IDNR Programs

☐ Objective 29.6 | Continue to utilize the IEPA Revolving Loan Program. This program has already helped with critical infrastructure and the community and should continue to do so.

☐ Funding: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Revolving Loan Program.

☐ Objective 29.7 | Increase the size of the existing lagoons to treat more water.

☐ Objective 29.8 | Increase the capacity and install a second lift station or back up pump to assist with continued operation and provide for any future development.

The current lift station serves as the primary head-works for the wastewater treatment plant by pumping into the force main that discharges into the lagoon area. Consideration should be given to potential public safety hazard presented by any prolonged outage of this station in its current configuration. A secondary pump or lift station should be planned for to ensure continued operation during any unforeseen outage.



Technology

☐ GOAL 30: INCREASE THE ACCESSIBILITY TO HIGH SPEED INTERNET FOR ALL RESIDENTS

If the Global Pandemic taught us anything, it is that high speed internet is critical to all aspects of a community's life, including education and business development. The opportunities for people to live anywhere and work from home for any job provide opportunities for Shabbona to attract new residents looking for a rural setting with a small town feel.

☐ Objective 30.1 | Encourage increases in access throughout the community.

The Village will continue to communicate with providers to increase access to high speed internet for all residents and businesses including fiber and satellite.

☐ Objective 30.2 | Install surveillance systems at all utility facilities.

While no theft or vandalism has occurred at utility facility sites, the lack of surveillance puts the Village's infrastructure systems at risk. The Village will work to install these systems at all sites.

☐ Objective 30.3 | Telecommunications improvement

Partner with other communities in DeKalb County or the U.S. 30 Corridor to ensure that that latest telecommunications advances are provided in the Village and in DeKalb County.



COMMUNITY FACILITIES + SERVICES

Local governmental agencies are responsible for a broad array of essential services (fire and police protection, library, public schools, etc.). The quality, efficacy, and efficiency of these services have a direct relationship to quality of life for residents. While each of these services is individually managed and monitored, they are considered in the comprehensive plan to ensure that investment in these services serves the overall vision for the Village. The overarching themes of the plan for these services are high quality, efficiency, and variety.

☐ GOAL 31: MAINTAIN THE HIGH QUALITY PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES AND LOOK FOR IMPROVEMENTS WHERE NECESSARY

Implement measures and remedy issues that can increase response time or impede responders' abilities to provide emergency services.

☐ Objective 31.1 | Remove any existing hydrant barriers and street sign obstructions.

Identify and remove obstructions limiting current hydrant access and ensure all street signs are visible and free from obstructions.

☐ Objective 31.2 | Evaluate lighting for streets and other public facilities.

Evaluate current street and public area lighting in all areas of town to ensure it is providing a safe and secure environment for residents and roadway users.

☐ Objective 31.3 | Develop a reporting system.

Develop a system for police officers, public safety officials, and residents to utilize in reporting problems such as obstructed street signs, fire hydrants, and burnt out bulbs in street lights. These communications need to reach the appropriate Village department in order for the issues to be remedied quickly.

☐ GOAL 32: DISASTER MITIGATION

Prepare for future disasters through planning and the execution of already developed mitigation measures.

☐ Objective 32.1 | Appoint an Emergency Services & Disaster Coordinator

Appoint a strong ESDA Coordinator to lead the efforts in developing and facilitating an emergency action plan for the Village. Any emergency planning should include an evaluation of any/all potential significant hazards that are present in the region or could occur through means of truck or rail movement.

☐ Objective 32.2 | Develop a Public Shelter Plan.

Develop a plan to provide shelter in case of an emergency. This plan should include provisions for directing individuals to shelter locations and a volunteer system in place to direct shelter-seekers and coordinate events (such as opening the facility, transportation, stocking supplies, cooking, cleaning, theft control, first aid, contacting American Red Cross, etc.).

☐ Objective 32.3 | Develop an Evacuation Plan.

Develop a plan to evacuate residents in case of a major disaster. Coordinate transportation, pick up locations and volunteers with local agencies.

☒ Community Input Highlights

- Most services offered by the Village were rate as Good or Excellent. Areas in need of improvement are:
 - Programs for Seniors
 - Street and Road Maintenance
 - Cable/telecommunication
 - Programs for Youth
- Despite lack of funds, the community also supports the same amount, if not more money be spent on services such as library, parks and rec, and economic development.

☐ Potential Partnership: Local school district to allow the use of the buses for such an event, but other details need to be discussed and recorded, Emergency Services Disaster Agency (ESDA), DeKalb County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), DeKalb County Sheriff's Department

☐ **Objective 32.4 | Implement the DeKalb County Hazard Mitigation Plan.**

Work to implement the goals and objectives set forth in the DeKalb County Hazard Mitigation Plan (2019) as applicable to the Village of Shabbona.

☐ Partnership: DeKalb County Regional Planning Commission, Emergency Services Disaster Agency (ESDA), DeKalb County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), DeKalb County Sheriffs Department

☐ **GOAL 33: EVALUATE CURRENT PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE ON REGULAR INTERVALS**

☐ **Objective 33.1 | Evaluate the level of service provided by all public safety entities and facilities.**

As the population increases, new businesses and industries develop or existing ones expand. The level of service provided by the current public safety and facility entities should be evaluated to determine whether these providers are able to maintain their level of service with their current staff, operations, and training or if circumstances demand a change to better meet the future needs of the community.

☐ **GOAL 34: DEVELOP CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS THE COMMUNITY IS LIKELY TO NEED**

This CIP program should leverage the knowledge and experience of current committees to ensure full awareness of all potential issues or challenges for any proposed projects.

☐ **Objective 34.1 | Provide funding sources, budget estimates and dates for any proposed CIP project**

☐ Coordination between the following committees: Finance, Infrastructure, Development, Public Affairs, and Ad hoc parks.

☐ **GOAL 35: TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT**

Partner with other communities in DeKalb County or the U.S. 30 Corridor to ensure that the latest telecommunications advances are provided in the Village and in DeKalb County.

☐ **GOAL 36: COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**

Shabbona boasts a number of service organizations that all provide assistance to individuals and families within the community. Awareness of these organizations and the services they provide is key to keeping them strong and fulfilling their missions. More importantly, awareness is the only way to align people with the resources they lack. These organizations are usually run on shoe-string budgets. The Village is committed to providing support whenever feasible.

☐ **Objective 36.1 | Work with the Chamber of Commerce to maintain an accurate listing of community service organizations and the services they provide.**

Continue to maintain a current listing of service organizations, current contact information, and the services they provide readily available for citizens on the website and at Village facilities.

☐ **Objective 36.2 | Assist organizations looking for new facilities.**

The demand for certain services these organizations provide will likely increase in the future. This increase may bring cause for them to relocate to a more accommodating facility. Once the Village inventories all the available vacant buildings and properties, the Village or Economic Development Corporation can assist in finding facilities that meet the needs of the expanding organizations.

☐ **GOAL 37: SERVICES FOR UNMET NEEDS**

Continue to identify needs for services yet to be offered by organizations or businesses. Use this as an opportunity for community development.

☐ **Objective 37.1 | Work to further identify senior services needed to better accommodate residents.**

Contact senior service facilities or providers in the community and discuss senior needs that are currently not being met. Some of these services identified during the comprehensive planning process include an adult daycare facility, cleaning services, and other home-based support and companionship services. Once these gaps are identified, work to quantify the demand. Work to begin recruiting these service providers to the community or communicate with current providers the need to expand their service offerings to accommodate demand.

☐ **Objective 37.2 | Align resident needs with the appropriate service organization.**

If the Village employees are approached by a resident with a specific need, they will point the resident in the direction of the most appropriate agency or service organization to assist him/her.

☐ **GOAL 38: ADDITIONAL DOWNTOWN PUBLIC FACILITIES**

Add additional public facilities to the downtown area to accommodate increased traffic for commerce activities, Village/county business or office visits, and social events. The downtown is home to Flewellin Memorial Public Library, along with a collection of restaurant, retail, and service providers. The downtown area and the Shabbona-Lee-Rollo Museum serve as host to many community social events (festivals, band concerts, etc.) throughout the year.

☐ **Objective 38.1 | Identify a potential location for construction of a parking lot as funds become available.**

Investigate lots that would serve as prime locations for a Village-owned parking lot. Discuss the costs necessary for such a facility to be constructed and maintained. Once a plan for building and maintenance is derived and the costs are deemed feasible, then build when funding becomes available.

☐ **GOAL 39: CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR THE FLEWELLIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Shabbona Public Library is a well-used facility and has room to expand to accommodate the expected increase in usage by the community. The Library is frequented by individuals seeking to copy/lamination/fax services, DVD rentals, public computer use, entertainment programming, homebound Delivery (In-town) and Notary services. Children visit the Library after school to do homework and access the internet. Seniors come to read periodicals, learn how to navigate the web, and enjoy the people-filled atmosphere. Young families visit with small children to bring the excitement of reading into their lives at an early age. The Library currently offers many educational programs for all ages.



NATURAL RESOURCES & PARKS + RECREATION

The purpose of the chapter is to provide general policy direction regarding parks and recreation planning and maintenance to satisfy the recreational needs of current and future residents. It will also work to protect and enhance the underlying and sustaining natural resource base of the community. The abundance and health of our natural resources is vital to the well being of our community, the prosperity of our economy, and the health of our regional ecological systems.

Natural Resources

It is important to identify and define the exceptional natural resources in and around the community, in respect to water, flora, and fauna, and to assess the relative importance these resources are to Shabbona. These include Shabbona Lake, Indian Creek, the Kishwaukee River, Shabbona Lake State Park, DeKalb County Forest Preserve, and Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve.

☐ GOAL 40: PARTNER WITH SHABBONA LAKE STATE PARK, DEKALB COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE, AND CHIEF SHABBONA FOREST PRESERVE

Being that these state park facilities border, or nearly border, the Village, they have a large impact on the community. Visitors come to these facilities from all over the region and nation to vacation. In 2022, over 600,000 people visited the State Park. Locals also utilize these facilities on a regular basis. Many opportunities lie in partnering with them. The Village is committed to considering all avenues of cooperation in order to provide greater benefits for its residents.

☐ Objective 40.1 | Partnering on funding/grant opportunities.

Oftentimes, grant solicitations require applicants to show evidence of a partnership that exists amongst organizations in executing a project. In the future, these types of opportunities may arise that would provide mutual benefit for the Village and the Park(s). The Village will work to investigate and encourage these types of partnerships.

- ☐ Potential Funding: IDNR-Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD)

☐ Objective 40.2 | Providing activities for residents and visitors.

The Shabbona Lake State Park provides many types of educational and recreational opportunities at their facilities and at off-site locations. The Village of Shabbona will partner with the state park to assist with such endeavors.

- ☐ Create more social and family events within Shabbona Lake State Park and Forrest Preserve.
- ☐ Hold more concerts at Somonauk Point.

☐ Objective 40.3 | Support a regional trail to Shabbona Lake State Park.

Improving the roads and bike lanes within the State Parks will increase tourism and recreational opportunities which in turn benefit the Village.

- ☐ Create rural routes for City bike riders within 50 miles of Shabbona. Potential Funding: IDNR, BIKE grant, Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
- ☐ Provide a map of all designated trail locations, types and uses, and potential regional connections.
- ☐ Work to better connect all the State Parks via recreational trails.

☐ Objective 40.4 | Support opportunities for boating.

- ☐ Create a "Float In" movie night on Shabbona Lake.

☒ Community Input Highlights

- Protecting natural and cultural resources is a high priority for the community
- Most respondents utilize Shabbona Lake State Park and the community trails regularly.
- More trails are most desired by the community.

☐ **Objective 40.5 | Marketing the local and regional park system.**

The Village will work with the Shabbona Lake State Park to assist in cross promoting each other's events. The Village will coordinate with the State Park on locally generated events to ensure that scheduled activities do not conflict with each other, but rather complement each other, therefore drawing larger numbers of visitors to both locations.

- ☐ Market the campgrounds for increased tourism. The campgrounds have electrical hook ups as well as showers and bathrooms. Promoting these resources to capitalize on the growing RV trends will increase tourism and awareness of all that Shabbona and the region have to offer.

☐ **GOAL 41: CONTINUE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION**

The Village has a good relationship with the Potawatomi Tribe and should continue to foster and grow that relationship. Both entities are connected to the land in and around Shabbona and have a vested interest in seeing it develop smartly and for the benefit of all.

Agricultural Resources

☐ **GOAL 42: PROTECT AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES**

Illinois has some of the best agricultural production ground in the world. This is a major economic resource for the community and the region. It supports employment for many in the community and region. Being good stewards of this resource is paramount to the future vitality of the region.

- ☐ **Objective 42.1 | Identify areas which should be built on and those that should remain in agricultural production.**
- ☐ **Objective 42.2 | Consider agricultural production when annexation and development on productive ground is proposed.**

Parks + Recreation

☐ **GOAL 43: SAFE PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH**

The youth in the community will be less likely to vandalize property or participate in unsafe or illegal activities if they are given safe and engaging activities or places to participate in or frequent. By participating in these activities, the youth will also develop closer friendships, increased self-esteem, and a stronger tie to the community. This is particularly important coming out of a global pandemic and the rise of mental health issues which have ensued. Youth activities could vary in type and be a mixture of educational, cultural, and artistic activities sponsored by many different organizations within the community. The Village is committed to assisting in supporting the programs offered.

- ☐ **Objective 43.1 | Assist community organizations who host youth-based functions.**
 - ☐ Publicize these events through the Village's official website and Facebook page and other social media outlets, on a community calendar, and on the community cable station.
 - ☐ Provide oversight, shared facilities, and a centralized system for tracking programming.
- ☐ **Objective 43.2 | Continue to support Flewellin Public Library and its programming.**

The Village will work to develop youth activities and will partner in providing additional programming at this facility.

☐ **Objective 43.3 | Expand recreational opportunities.**

- ☐ Add a sculpture garden through a student collaboration for passive recreation and community beautification.
- ☐ Add a sensory playground for children with special needs.

☐ **GOAL 44: INCREASE THE SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE VILLAGE PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

Safety and accessibility are very important factors to consider with any public facility. The Village wishes to keep all its residents and visitors safe and to not discriminate against anyone, regardless of age, gender, race, or capabilities.

☐ **Objective 44.1 | Work to provide remedies to any safety or accessibility issue.**

The Village will work to correct any issues that present a safety hazard or lack of accessibility to potential park and recreation facility users within the Village's rights-of-way. The Village will work to remain compliant with all codes and regulations that govern the standards for these facilities.

- ☐ Include a line item each year in the Village Budget for expanding and improving sidewalks and bike paths.
- ☐ Continue support of the Shabbona Pathway Committee (walk-run-ride) to identify areas of opportunity, safety issues, and gather valuable input on future development needs.

☐ **GOAL 45: INCREASE USAGE OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

The Village is very proud of its current parks and recreation facilities. The Village wants to encourage the use of these locations by the entire community.

☐ **Objective 45.1 | Encourage use of the current parks and recreation facilities as learning centers.**

The Village wishes to partner with the schools and other organizations to encourage use of the parks and recreation facilities as learning centers. The parks can be utilized as outdoor classrooms. The schools take many field trips to various local sites, the schools could take field trips to the parks as well. If the children are introduced to the parks through school, then they are more likely to utilize them in their free time.

☐ **Objective 45.2 | Promote the parks as a part of a healthy and active lifestyle.**

The community parks are perfect places where adults and children can exercise and not even know it. The physical activity displayed on a playground site not only puts smiles on everyone's faces, but also provides for a great workout. Busy parents may not have time to go to the gym and the Village wishes to let them know that they don't have to. The Village has provided safe places for play that also allow for plenty of opportunities for cardiovascular and strength training workouts.

☐ **Objective 45.3 | Keep the parks map and signage up to date.**

The Village will make changes when appropriate to the park maps and signs.

☐ **GOAL 46: DEVELOP A PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

The Village of Shabbona is sprinkled with small parks owned by the Village. The Village realizes maintaining these facilities is a complex endeavor that should be well thought out and planned. Developing a park plan to provide further information on the changes and expenses will assist the Village in budgeting.

☐ **Objective 46.1 | Maintain and improve existing park facilities.**

☐ **Purdy Park**

- ◇ Convert the access between the Park and the Railroad into a one-way alley and add angled parking spaces.
- ◇ Build a pavilion/bandshell for community concerts and events in the heart of town. Eventually, this structure could hold restrooms.
- ◇ Construct a trailhead for the bike path system, including benches and shade trees.

☐ **Joe Perkins Memorial Park**

- ◇ Potentially a good place to construct a splash pad utilizing OSLAD funds.

☐ **Water Tower Park**

- ◇ Potentially a good place to construct a splash pad utilizing OSLAD funds.

☐ **All Parks**

- ◇ Keep equipment up to date and ADA Compliant.

☐ **Objective 46.2 | Introduce new park facilities.**

☐ **Dog Park**

- ◇ Find one (1) acre for the construction of a dog park. Village should consider how to run and operate the facility, including proof of vaccines and potential annual fees.

☐ **Objective 46.3 | Continue to seek grants and funding to support parks and recreation.**

There are a multitude of grants and funding sources available that support parks and recreational activities. The Village will continuously identify needs and search for funds to assist in implementation.

☐ **GOAL 47: CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE MULTI-USE RECREATION PATHS**

The Village of Shabbona wishes to develop a multi-use path system within the community that also provides connectivity to Shabbona Lake State Park. They will work to identify funding opportunities and partnerships to bring these paths to reality.

☐ **Objective 47.1 | Implement the Village of Shabbona Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Plan.**

The Village will work to implement a plan as funding allows.

- ☐ Potential Funding: IDOT Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program, IDNR Regional Trails Program and the BIKE program.

☐ **Objective 47.2 | Search for opportunities to partner with DeKalb County Greenways and Trails Coalition (DCGTC) and DeKalb County Forrest Preserve District in connecting to their trails and greenways system.**

DeKalb County developed a trails and greenways plan and the Village wishes to always be included for consideration in projects that would allow these entities to connect their systems.

- ☐ Potential Funding: IDOT Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program, IDNR Regional Trails Program and the BIKE program.

☐ **Objective 47.3 | Search for funding opportunities to construct multi-use recreation paths.**

The Village will continue to search for funding sources to cover a large portion of the costs to be incurred when developing these facilities.

- ☐ Potential Funding: Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Illinois Bicycle Path Grant Program, Federal Recreation Trails Program, ITEP & SRTS

☐ GOAL 48: CONTINUE TO USE THE PARKS SYSTEM AS AN ECONOMIC DRIVER AND TOOL FOR RECRUITMENT

Parks and recreation facilities are shown to attract businesses, visitors, and residents. The presence of these facilities provides an increased quality of life and opportunities for recreation, as well as community gathering places. The Village will work to promote these facilities whenever working toward marketing the community.

☐ Objective 48.1 | The Village will include materials about its parks and recreation facilities in its business recruitment packages.

The Village will include information about its parks and recreation facilities in all recruitment packets sent to potential businesses and industries.

☐ Objective 48.2 | The Village will continue to keep its parks and recreation information current on the Village's website.

The Village will update the website with any new or changed parks and recreation facility information. The Village will also work to post any information on events, special activities, and special amenities involving these facilities. The Village will investigate the addition of an interactive map online that shows an image of the park along with amenity information when scrolled over or clicked on.

☐ Objective 48.3 | The Village will investigate their ability to construct an indoor/outdoor complex for community recreational activities and events.

Travel leagues can be a huge economic driver for communities and the Village should consider the costs to construct and maintain such facilities against the economic benefits they could bring. The community has cited the need for such facilities in the region and this is an opportunity worth exploring.

☐ Potential Funding: IDNR PARC grant; IDNR OSLAD grant.

☐ GOAL 49: ENSURE THE GOLF COURSE CONTINUES AS A COMMUNITY ASSET

The Golf Course is a big asset for the community but has the potential to be an even bigger asset.

☐ Objective 49.1 | Partner with Indian Oaks Golf Club

- ☐ Explore expanding the course.
- ☐ Explore adding putt putt for family fun.
- ☐ Explore the addition of a Jr. Golf League.
- ☐ Explore creating a Frisbee golf course.
- ☐ Explore developing around the course for housing.



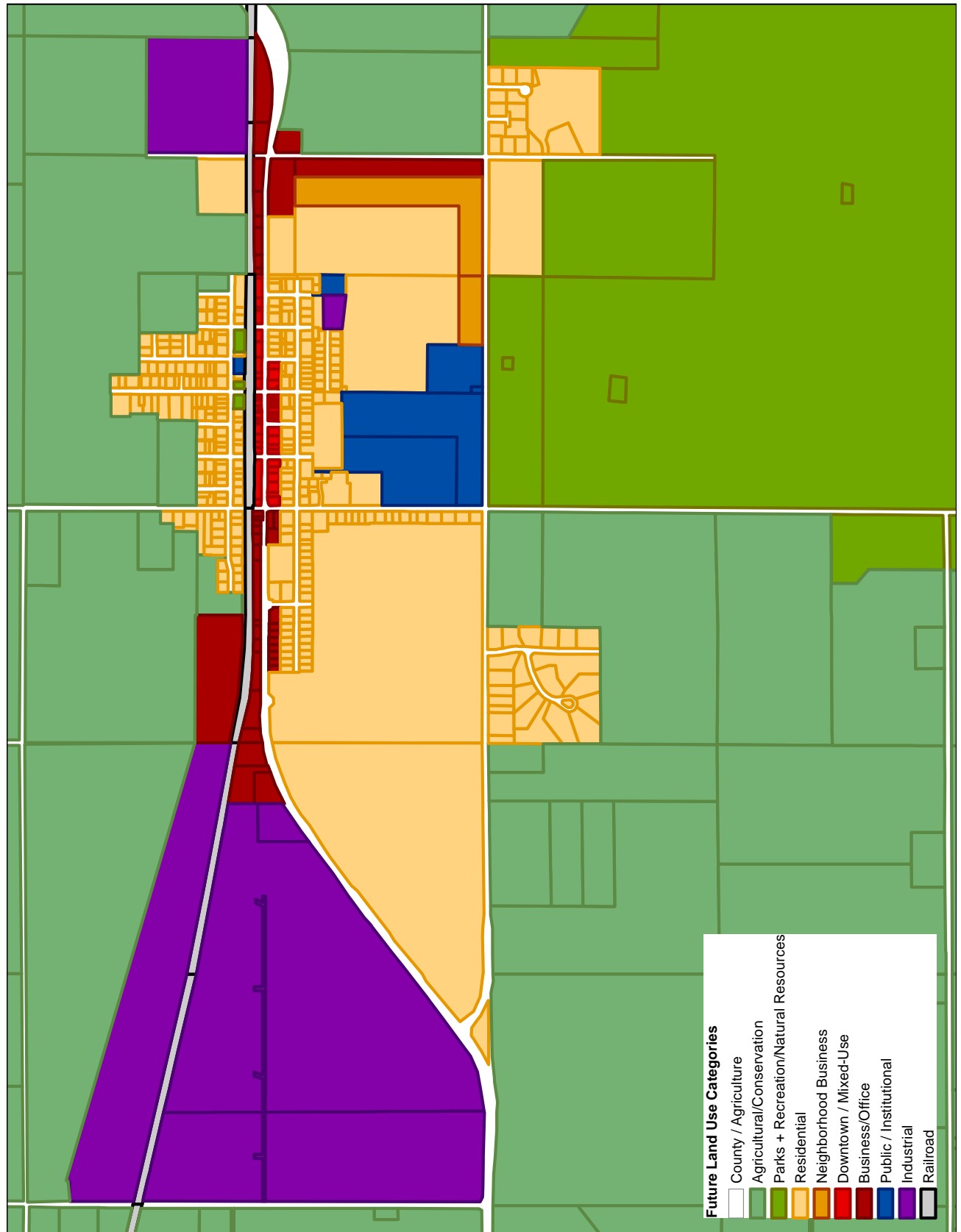


LAND USE

There are many unique uses of land across Shabbona and many more ways to configure those uses. It is the Village's responsibility to regulate where and how development occurs so that conflict between incompatible uses is minimized, land and infrastructure are used as efficiently as possible, and Shabbona continues to grow as a pleasant, attractive place to live, work, shop, play, and stay. This chapter features goals, objectives, and policies that apply to land use in general, and also strategies and guidelines for specific types of land use and their location within the Village and its extraterritorial plat review area.

Future Land Use Map

Shabbona, Illinois



Future Land Use Map

The Future Land Use (FLU) Map (previous page) identifies categories of similar use, character and density. These use categories are described in the preceding pages, including an explanation of the Village's intent along with design and development strategies for each.

The FLU map and the corresponding text are to be consulted whenever development is proposed, especially when a zoning change or land division is requested. Zoning changes and development shall be consistent with the use category shown on the map and the corresponding text.

Where uses in this map differ from the current use, it is not the general intent of the Village to compel a change in zoning or a change in use. Except in rare instances when the Village may actively facilitate redevelopment of a priority site, the Village's use of this map will be only reactive, guiding response to proposals submitted by property owners.

Amendments

It may from time to time be appropriate to consider amendments to the Future Land Use Map. The following criteria should be considered before amending the map.

Agricultural

The land does not have a history of productive farming activities, does not contain prime soils, or is not viable for long-term agricultural use. The land is too small to be economically used for agricultural purposes, or is inaccessible to the machinery needed to produce and harvest products.

Compatibility

The proposed development, or map amendment, will not have a substantial adverse effect upon adjacent property or the character of the area, with a particular emphasis on existing residential neighborhoods. A petitioner may indicate approaches that will minimize incompatibilities between uses.

Natural Resources

The land does not include important natural features such as wetlands, floodplains, steep slopes, scenic vistas or significant woodlands, which will be adversely affected by the proposed development. The proposed building envelope is not located within the setback of Floodplain zones (raised above regional flood line). The proposed development will not result in undue water, air, light, or noise pollution.

Petitioner may indicate approaches that will preserve or enhance the most important and sensitive natural features of the proposed site.

Emergency Vehicle Access

The lay of the land will allow for construction of appropriate roads and/or driveways that are suitable for travel or access by emergency vehicles.

Ability to Provide Services

Provision of public facilities and services will not place an unreasonable financial burden on the Village. Petitioners may demonstrate to the Village that the current level of services in the Village, or region, including but not limited to school capacity, transportation system capacity, emergency services capacity (police, fire, EMS), parks and recreation, library services, and potentially water and/or sewer services, are adequate to serve the proposed use. Petitioners may also demonstrate how they will assist the Village with any shortcomings in public services or facilities.

Public Need

There is a clear public need for the proposed change or unanticipated circumstances have resulted in a need for the change. The proposed development is likely to have a positive fiscal or social impact on the Village. The Village may require that the property owner, or their agent, fund the preparation of a fiscal impact analysis by an independent professional.

Adherence to Other Portions of this Plan

The proposed development is consistent with the general vision for the Village, and the other goals and objectives of this Plan.

Using the Future Land Use Map

The future land use categories identify areas of similar use, character, and density. These classifications are not zoning districts - they do not legally set performance criteria for land uses (i.e. setbacks, height restrictions, density, etc.); However, they do identify those Shabbona Zoning Ordinance districts that currently fit within each future land use category. The strategies listed with each category are provided to help landowners and Village officials make design decisions during the development process consistent with the intent of the land use category. These strategies may be used to help determine whether to approve a rezoning, which zoning district to apply, and what conditions to set, if any. Many categories also feature design recommendations.

Future Land Use Categories

Suitable Zoning Districts

A - Agricultural

Land Use Strategies

- ❑ New homes should be sited on nonproductive soils in ways that minimize disruption of agricultural use and avoid the creation of new access points to state highways. Small lots (e.g. 0.5 acres) are preferred, especially if the remaining land is in agricultural use.
- ❑ Rural residential subdivisions containing 5+ homes are discouraged, except in areas where urban development is unlikely to occur, even many years from now.
- ❑ Rural residential subdivisions are strongly encouraged to utilize conservation design strategies that minimize the disruption of natural features and rural character.

AGRICULTURAL / CONSERVATION

This land use category is intended for area where the rural character will be preserved, primarily located in the Village's extraterritorial jurisdiction and unlikely or infeasible for urban development in the short- to mid-term. Uses allowed in the future land use category include farming, farmsteads, forestry, open space, rural residential, farm family businesses, or other agricultural related businesses. The majority of these lands are undeveloped; however, they may contain farmsteads or residential developments generally with a minimum lot size of 10 acres. To prevent potential conflicts with farm operations, new housing should be located at the edges of fields, on non-productive lands, and away from hydric (wet) soils. Developments within this category are served by private wells and on-site waste treatment (septic) systems.

Conservation areas are lands which the Village wishes to protect because they are vital to the region's ecosystem and/or they are considered an important part of the Village's character and culture. Conservation areas may include land that is restricted from development due to the slope or wetland characteristics. Conservation areas may also include land that is otherwise developable but which the Village chooses to protect by preventing such development. The intended use for Conservation land is passive recreation (bike and walking paths, ATV trails, etc.).



Image DeKalb County

PARKS / OPEN SPACE

This land use category includes property where active recreation is the primary activity and where there is typically no commercial or residential use. The Village, County or State usually owns these properties. Some stormwater management or other utility/institutional uses (e.g. water towers) maybe located within these areas. These lands can be public or privately owned.



Suitable Zoning Districts

These uses are permitted in almost all zoning districts.

Land Use Strategies

- ❑ Existing natural areas identified as Parks and Recreation are to be preserved, though limited access should be provided to foster awareness and appreciation for the area.
- ❑ The development and improvement of future Parks and Recreation areas should be focused on expanding/connecting a trails system.
- ❑ The development of indoor recreational opportunities should be explored.
- ❑ A Parks Master Plan should be created and updated regularly to ensure the development of recreational facilities to suit the needs of the community.
- ❑ Use these conservation areas and uses to connect to other regional destinations such as Shabbona State Park.
- ❑ All residents will have access to parks and recreation facilities.

Suitable Zoning Districts

- R-1 Single Family Residential
- R-3 Two-Family Residential
- R-2 Multiple-family Residential

Land Use Strategies

- ❑ Urban services will be required for all new development within the Village limits, including municipal water, wastewater, and stormwater management systems.
- ❑ Residential uses should be developed to include trails for bicycle transportation and recreation.
- ❑ Though housing is the predominant use in most residential neighborhoods, healthy, balanced neighborhoods may also include other uses that support the needs of residents, including:
 - ❑ Parks and recreational facilities
 - ❑ Small municipal and institutional facilities (e.g. learning center, library, fire station, etc.)
 - ❑ Community centers
 - ❑ Places of worship
 - ❑ Day care centers
 - ❑ Small commercial that serves neighborhood needs
- ❑ The Village will encourage and support the creation of neighborhood plans for growth areas and for existing neighborhoods experiencing redevelopment, to proactively determine how varied housing types and uses can be appropriately integrated into the neighborhood, and to establish a unique identity for each neighborhood.
- ❑ Infill development will protect the look and character of existing residential neighborhoods.

RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT

This land use category is intended for existing and planned neighborhoods that feature a mix of housing types with the majority of homes consisting of single-family and duplex units. These neighborhoods will be served by municipal sanitary sewer and water systems. Municipal and institutional land uses (parks, schools, churches, and stormwater facilities) may be built within this district area. The preferred density range is 2-8 units per acre.

**Do to changing standards and preferences in housing, only one (1) residential zone has been identified for the FLU of this plan. Proposals will be reviewed by Village Staff on a case by case basis to ensure the developments meet the intent of the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance.*

Design Strategies

The Village encourages residential projects (new construction, infill, and remodeling) to incorporate design strategies that will maintain neighborhood property values over time and enhance the social function and safety of the neighborhood.





DOWNTOWN MIXED-USE

This land use category is intended for pedestrian-oriented commercial, office, entertainment, civic/institutional, and residential uses in a “traditional, walkable downtown setting” with on-street parking and minimal building setbacks. This area will remain as the Village’s focal point and activity center. Businesses that are encouraged for this area include restaurants, small grocery or specialty food shops, laundromats, hairdressers/barbers, jewelers, hardware stores, small professional/business office uses that reinforce the Village center’s “small-town” character. Several parcels within this area are under-utilized or are in disrepair and are candidates for redevelopment. The Village will actively promote the rehabilitation or redevelopment of these parcels for commercial, civic, or mixed uses. Uses in the Downtown Mixed-Use area are expected to be integrated both vertically and horizontally.

Design Strategies

The Village encourages all new development and redevelopment in the downtown mixed use area to maintain the historic urban fabric and character.

Suitable Zoning Districts

- R-1 Single-Family Residential
- R-2 Multiple-family Residential
- C-1 Central Business District
- C-2 Service Retail District

Land Use Strategies

- ❑ Older buildings with architectural character and historical interest are important to the image of the entire community. The Village encourages and supports adaptive reuse projects that retain and restore the historic character of the structure.
- ❑ The Village will ensure all structures meet current building code standards to ensure the welfare and safety of the public.
- ❑ The Village will encourage and enforce the use of ground floor spaces for retail and commerce.
- ❑ The Village will continue to update right-of-ways throughout the downtown to enhance the pedestrian experience and allow for safer, more flexible public and pedestrian spaces.

Suitable Zoning Districts

- R-1 Single-Family Residential
- R-2 Multiple-family Residential
- C-1 Central Business District
- C-2 Service Retail District

Land Use Strategies

- ❑ Commercial areas should generally be served by public transit, a contiguous sidewalk network, and safe bike routes to connect to the neighborhoods and the rest of Shabbona.
- ❑ The Village encourages and supports investment in small neighborhood commercial uses and sites in existing neighborhoods. Sites deemed no longer viable for commercial use should be considered for residential redevelopment.
- ❑ (Re)Development will be well designed to integrate with the character of the surrounding neighborhood and will not endanger the health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood. High-quality, long-lasting materials will be used.
- ❑ Native landscaping and other aesthetically appealing elements will be used to enhance commercial properties.

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS

This land use category is intended for small-medium scale office and retail which can be integrated within and on the edge of residential neighborhoods. Businesses may include bowling alleys, supermarkets, furniture stores, banks, larger professional/business offices and similar commercial uses.

Design Strategies

The Village encourages all commercial projects to use design strategies that will maintain property values over time. This section offers different strategies for businesses within or near residential neighborhoods.

BUSINESS / OFFICE

These land use categories accommodate large-scale commercial and mixed uses with locational requirements and operational characteristics not suitable within Downtown Business or Residential districts. Highway Businesses may include hotels/motels, high-volume restaurants and drive-thru establishments, gas stations, auto-repair, and other high-traffic uses.

Design Strategies

The Village encourages for all highway commercial and projects to use design strategies that will maintain property values over time.

Suitable Zoning Districts

C-2 Service Retail District

Land Use Strategies

- ❑ Business/Office areas should generally be served by public transit, a contiguous sidewalk network, and connected to safe bike routes.
- ❑ The Village encourages and supports investment in highway commercial businesses, especially commercial along Route 30.
- ❑ The Village encourages the development of a Business Park on the East and West ends of town.

INDUSTRIAL

This land use category is appropriate for indoor manufacturing, warehousing, distribution, office and outdoor storage usage. The intensity of industrial development is regulated by the Village's zoning ordinance.

Suitable Zoning Districts

I - Industrial

Land Use Strategies

- ❑ Industrial areas should be located near regional transportation routes. Uses with a large workforce should also be served by a public transit service when available/feasible.

Future Land Use Goals

☐ GOAL 50: ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENTS

The Village will work to encourage sustainable developments. These developments will decrease the impact of urban sprawl while making the most efficient use of Village infrastructure for maintenance and expansion.

☐ Objective 50.1 | Encourage contiguous developments.

The Village wishes to develop land in areas where developments already exist. This will provide for the most efficient use of resources and the least amount of burden on the Village to provide additional infrastructure and service.

- ☐ Annex in any property which is already connected to Village utilities.

☐ Objective 50.2 | Encourage wise consumption of land for developments.

The Village is surrounded by agricultural land that is prime for development. On the same note, agriculture is one of the key drivers of the local and state economies. The Village will encourage developers to not purchase land in excess of the development's needs to respect existing agricultural uses. This will allow the least amount of impact by decommissioning as little land as possible.

☐ GOAL 51: PRESERVE “SMALL TOWN” CHARM DURING GROWTH

The Village of Shabbona is projected to grow at a slow pace, however, one large development would make a substantial impact on that growth projection in a matter of months. With that in mind, Shabbona will work to maintain its “small town” atmosphere through well-thought-out growth decisions and the avoidance of inappropriate development that could adversely impact the Village's financial health.

☐ Objective 51.1 | Preserve Shabbona's historic charm.

Shabbona is known for its historic treasures and charm. Since this is a large part of its culture and could serve as an additional tourism draw, Shabbona will want to keep this in mind when making future development decisions.

☐ Objective 51.2 | Preserve Shabbona's clean and tidy appearance.

Shabbona is also known for its clean and tidy appearance. It is a town that prides itself on its beautiful tree-lined streets, well-kept homes and landscaped yards. When making decisions about future developments, the Village will evaluate the development's impact on the Village's appearance and atmosphere.

☐ Objective 51.3 | Improve appearance along major arterials.

Promote landscaped buffer zones along designated major arterials that enhance the small town look and feel.

☐ Objective 51.4 | Create a sense of community

As Shabbona strategically grows, it is important to ensure that all development embraces and embodies a sense of community throughout design.

☐ GOAL 52: CONDUCT A REVIEW OF CURRENT ORDINANCES

It is vital to review current ordinances when implementing a new comprehensive plan to ensure that ordinances are relevant to the needs of the Village and will serve to support and protect the vision of development.

- ☒ Objective 52.1 | Creation of a vacant building ordinance to encourage improvements and investments (See **Ordinance Title 8, Chapter 7**)

☐ GOAL 53: PROVIDE ADEQUATE CHOICES FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF DEVELOPMENTS

The Village wishes to ensure that plenty of development locations are available for those looking to build a home, locate a business, or construct a manufacturing facility.

- ☐ Objective 53.1 | Provide a wide variety of land locations to serve present and future residential land use needs.

The Village will encourage those who wish to purchase property for residential land use to purchase vacant lots located in current residential areas or to build where land is suitable for residential activity. The Village will attempt to maintain its low-density residential patterns while ensuring residential areas are available to all income levels.

- ☐ Objective 53.2 | Provide a wide variety of locations for commercial development activities that are located throughout the Village and are sensitive to residential activities.

The Village will encourage those who wish to develop land for commercial purposes to do so where land is suitable for commercial activity, preferably on vacant land located in a current commercial area. Commercial activity is best suited throughout the Village along US 30.

- ☐ Objective 53.3 | Provide a variety of locations for industrial development activities.

The Village will encourage industrial land use activities to occur along major transportation corridors, where current infrastructure is present and separate from residential populations, particularly on the west side of town.

- ☐ Objective 53.4 | Designate land use one-half (0.5) mile beyond Shabbona's corporate limits to protect the areas bordering the Village while allowing for contiguous land use designations in case of future annexation.

The Village will designate land use adjacent to its corporate limits in order to protect the Village against unwanted developments and to ensure alignment in land use in case the Village would want to annex this property in the future.

☐ GOAL 54: ANNEXATION TO ENCOURAGE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT


- ☐ Objective 54.1 | Seek opportunities for annexation that will serve to promote growth but are in line with the current and future anticipated carrying capacity of Village services

- ☐ Objective 54.2 | Seek financial incentives for voluntary annexation



Shabbona

Comprehensive Plan
2023



A special thanks to all who have contributed to our community through this process and into the future implementation of the plan.