

Highland Park
District 15 Plan
Executive Summary

This updated District 15 Plan seeks to strengthen Highland Park's place as one of the best places to live, work and play in the City of St. Paul. This plan stresses our values which, if observed, will help the district's citizens to retain the quality of life which makes it such a desirable place to be.

These values include promoting harmonious neighborhoods marked by diversity of culture, attractive residential and common properties under a well-sustained tree canopy. The plan also encourages a mutually beneficial relationship between residential livability and commercial vitality.

The Plan is driven by residents' vision for the future while reflecting concerns about existing conditions and issues in the District. One of these issues which grows in importance annually is the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and other non-motorized traffic. As commercial and multi-use properties take an ever larger portion of the neighborhood, off-setting precautions must be exercised to limit the hazards such growth entails. Pedestrian and bike safety in both residential and commercial areas is critical.

The Plan also seeks to maintain high-quality housing stock through physical maintenance and community interaction that promotes pride and safety and retains residential and commercial investment value. The plan thus promotes growth that is harmonious with the existing community. This growth must protect and expand access to the natural amenities including parks, trails and recreational facilities. It must enhance environmental consciousness to reduce the negative impacts of humans on the environment and on pollinators and wildlife who share it. This goal incorporates the proactive development of the Shepard/Davern and Ford Plant sites.

The District 15 Comprehensive Plan is created through a public participation process and a thorough investigation of the issues that will affect Highland Park in the next ten to twenty years. This process included extensive brainstorming with the Highland District Council and the Council's Planning Task Force. Over the summer of 2017 residents and business-owners were encouraged to contribute to an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the District using a widely disseminated survey.

Specific goals, strategies and actions have been devised in order to fulfill both the broad vision for the District as well as the specific visions for several topic areas. The topic areas are:

- Land Use
- Transportation
- Parks and Recreation
- Housing
- Environment and Water Resources
- Historic Preservation
- Public Art

Appendices are attached detailing the larger scale developments which will take center stage in the Highland Park area over the length of this ten year plan.

