

Proposed 2024 Priorities

Utilities

Provide infrastructure, electric service, and water/wastewater services that are reliable and safe.

1. In order to ensure the reliable delivery of power beyond 2035, the Electric Utility will publicly evaluate the City's options to procure energy and associated services.

The City's contract with the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency for purchased power and other utility related services ends in 2035. Efforts of this priority will include public education, consideration and deliberation of options to purchase power and other utility services after 2035. The City's focus is securing a reliable and cost-effective power source to meet the community's power needs while also exploring more sustainable energy sources.

2. In order to protect the health and welfare of our customers and meet regulatory requirements, the Water Utilities will complete upgrades and expansion of the Springbrook Water Reclamation Center and lead service line removals by 2030.

After fifty years of service, the Springbrook Water Reclamation Facility is over capacity and a facility assessment has revealed major repairs necessary to maintain service. Upcoming regulatory changes to phosphorus limits at the plant require new infrastructure to maintain compliance. Additionally, state law requires a plan to complete the removal of all residential lead service lines within 15 years. This priority will include engineering, permitting, and construction of these projects as well as advocacy to secure grant funds and appropriations to offset costs to city rate payers.

3. In order to preserve water resources and mitigate unnecessary rate increases, the Water Utilities will work to reduce non-revenue water by 2.5% of purchased water by December 2027.

Water utilities incur lose revenue due to pipe leakage, main breaks, aging meters and billing issues, commonly referred to as non-revenue water. Through water meter replacement, installation of water pressure and leak detection sensors, improved water data analysis, and increased water main replacement, the City strives to reduce non-revenue water from a five-year average of 13.7% to 11.2% saving rate payers \$700,000 annually.

Safety

Provide a safe and secure community for all Naperville residents and businesses.

1. In order to maintain the highest quality public safety departments while in a nationwide hiring shortage, the City will identify opportunities to expand the recruitment pool and enhance the flexibility in the Police and Fire hiring process.

Recruiting, training and retaining police and fire employees is critical to maintaining a safe community. Even as a destination department, antiquated and lengthy hiring processes complicate efforts in an already challenging hiring environment. Process review will include improvements to local processes and potentially the need for legislative changes.

2. In order to improve disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, the City will create a multi-year Emergency Management and implementation plan by January 1, 2025.

Emergency Preparedness has evolved to responding to not only natural disasters, but acts of violence, unrest, and cyber events. This goal will include activities to support improved preparedness as an organization as well as community preparedness.

3. In order to increase community involvement, partnership and awareness in crime prevention and overall public safety, the City will provide at least eight public safety education and community engagement opportunities annually.

Public safety is a partnership between the City and the community. Residents and businesses are part of the public safety team reporting suspicious behavior, sharing crime and fire prevention information within their networks, and being prepared for an emergency. These educational opportunities will further expand the public safety team by educating more residents and businesses on current public safety topics and concerns.

Economy

Promote development of the local economy and be a good steward of city tax revenues.

1. In order to maintain financial resilience and sustainability, the City will evaluate overall revenue diversification by December 31, 2026.

Revenue diversification allows the City to maintain delivery of services in varying economic environments. This effort will review overall revenue diversification but also include analysis of changing revenue streams including the upcoming elimination of the grocery tax, reductions in electric and water consumption, and the impact of electric vehicles on Motor Fuel Tax and road maintenance funds.

2. In order to facilitate the development of the I-88 Corridor to best meet the needs of current and future Naperville residents, the City will provide support to I-88 corporate representatives, real estate development professionals, and the Naperville Development Partnership (NDP) in the creation and implementation of an I-88 Tollway Study.

The I-88 Corridor is a busy economic center, home to a diverse range of industries. However, over time, the occupancy rate has decreased. The Tollway study is an opportunity to recreate this prime real estate with a focus on both recruitment and retention. Long-term success will be measured through jobs, tax revenue, positive impacts to surrounding businesses, and positive impacts on Naperville residents and the community as whole.

Mobility

Residents can move about the community with ease in a variety of modes.

1. In order to appropriately scale transit service in Naperville, the City will establish transit priorities and advocate in upcoming regional transit reform and funding processes.

Chicagoland transit agencies are facing a potential \$700 million annual budget deficit and sweeping reforms of transit governance have already been proposed. This effort will include determining transit service priorities for Naperville and actively working with DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference, other Councils of Government, and our legislators on fair and representative governance and funding of transit in the region.

2. In order to improve traffic flow on major streets, the City will complete an update to the Road Improvement Plan by December 31, 2025.

Traffic flow and congestion on major roads in Naperville have been a long-standing concern. Minimizing congestion on arterial roads and intersections reduces travel times, lowers emissions and reduces unnecessary traffic on neighborhood streets. This long-range Road Improvement Plan will identify potential capacity roadway and intersection projects to provide improved levels of service. Specific projects will be included in the annual Capital Improvement Program for consideration.

3. In order to improve the ease of walking and travel by bicycle, the City will complete an update to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan by December 31, 2026.

Building on the results of the 2023 Pedestrian and Bicycle Survey, this effort will update the 2006 Bicycle Plan with the addition of pedestrian facility planning. Areas of focus include addressing system gaps, designing for a variety of users, coordination amongst agencies, and safety. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan will

increase the overall availability of walking and biking for recreation, fitness and work trips. Specific projects will be included in the annual Capital Improvement Program for consideration.

Natural Environment/Community Design

Ensure a well-designed community that values the natural environment.

1. In order to maintain the Riverwalk's cultural, environmental and economic impact, the City and its community partners will implement the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan.

The Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan was created in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Riverwalk. The plan includes new improvements and amenities to ensure the Riverwalk remains a regional destination and a community gathering space. This priority will include engineering, permitting, and construction of these projects as well as advocacy to secure grant funds and appropriations.

2. In order to improve water quality and develop sustainable green infrastructure, the City will establish and measure the impacts of the Native Vegetation Management Program through 2028.

The City has identified five properties as initial project sites to promote native vegetation and sustainable landscapes. This program will include design, permitting, construction, and monitoring of these sites. Additionally, this effort will include the establishment of and reporting of performance criteria to measure the impact of the improved properties.

3. In order to further engage the community in preserving the environment, the City will increase the marketing of opportunities for residents and businesses to actively participate in conservation and environmental sustainability initiatives.

The City has an opportunity to increase community involvement in sustainability initiatives. Specifically, the city will encourage and measure the participation of programs including: E-Waste and household hazardous waste collection, prescription drug drop-off program, voluntary yard and food waste cart program, and renewable energy and energy efficiency incentives. Additionally, this effort will include increased marketing around other programs including but not limited to curbside recycling, sustainable landscapes, and cleanup and River Sweep efforts with the Conservation Foundation, and Adopt-A-Drain.