

Investing in Our Community

Priorities Plan Update

May 2025





Tonight's Discussion

1

History of Investing in Our Community Priorities Plan

2

Overview of five priority areas and update on priorities covered last fall

3

In-depth focus: Safety, Economy and Mobility

4

Next steps

History and Background

- Priorities serve as foundation for annual budget discussions.
- 2023 community survey provided a look at sentiment about valued services and community amenities.
- City has focused its goals toward areas of highest value and importance to residents.
- Goals to be accomplished over a two- to five-year timeframe.

Priorities Overview



Utilities

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



Economy

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



Mobility

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



Natural Environment/ Community Design

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



Safety

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

Priority Goal — Utilities

Status

Update

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



- Energy consultant CES completed a report on options to fulfill energy and ancillary energy service requirements beyond 2035.
- Public Utilities Advisory Board (PUAB) held three public meetings in 2025, including presentations from CES, IMEA, NEST and additional energy experts.
- PUAB recommended the City “contract with IMEA for the delivery of energy and associated services beyond 2035” (4-3).
- Staff continues to research options provided by the consultant, as well as meeting with stakeholders.
- Staff plans to bring the discussion to a City Council meeting in July/August.



Not started



Ongoing



Complete - part of operating procedures

Priority Goal — Utilities

Status

Update

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.



Completed in 2024:

- Removed 87 lead service lines.
- Replaced watermain on Sylvan Circle and Porter Avenue, River Road and Columbia Street.
- Springbrook water reclamation improvements included close out of the ultraviolet disinfection system project, continued progress on the influent pump station and South Plant force-main, award of the return activated sludge and grit removal system upgrades, engineering design for the North and South Plant upgrades.

Begun in 2025:

- Awarded contracts for lead service line removal and watermain replacements.
- Awarded contracts for second biosolids holding tank project at Springbrook Water Reclamation Center.
- Continued construction progress on influent pump station and South Plant force-main, RAS/grit removal system.

Upcoming in 2025:

- South Plant upgrades out to bid in April.



Not started



Ongoing



Complete - part of operating procedures

Priority Goal — Utilities

Status

Update

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.



- Investment in assets and technology to aid and identify leaks.
- Operational changes once leaks are identified.
- Changes have resulted in a 1.5% reduction in 5-year rolling average for non-revenue water, as reported for the 2023-2024 water year.



Not started



Ongoing



Complete - part of operating procedures

Priority Goal — Natural Environment

Status

Update

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.



- Eagle Street Gateway re-bid and construction contract awarded in December. Construction began on March 6, with substantial completion expected by Labor Day.
- 430 S. Washington Street will be bid out for construction after completion of the Washington Street bridge. A contract should be awarded this fall. Completion slated for early summer 2026.
- The Riverwalk Commission/consultant working on design and permitting of the South Extension of the Riverwalk.
- Walgreens and JC Licht property listed for sale: City staff and Riverwalk Commission ready for conversations about how the Riverwalk could be redeveloped in this block.
- Streambank stabilization ongoing along western portions of the Riverwalk (Naperville Park District and DuPage County).



Not started



Ongoing



Complete - part of operating procedures

Priority Goal — Natural Environment

Status

Update

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.



- Annual maintenance and restoration ongoing: tree and shrub clearing, weed control, native plant and seed installation, and controlled burning.
 - Three- to five-year timeline for sites to be restored to healthy condition.
- Additional sites being evaluated for conversion to native planting areas.
- Partnership with The Conservation Foundation to support and promote its Conservation@Home program.
 - Free advice/ideas to reduce landscape chemical use, incorporate earth-friendly landscaping strategies, and create native gardens.
 - June – November 2024: 22 Naperville homes received the Conservation@Home certification for meeting program criteria; 57 more yards received site assessments.



Not started



Ongoing



Complete - part of operating procedures



Safety

Safety Priority Goals - Overview



Priority Goal

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.

In order to improve disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, the City will create a multi-year Emergency Management and implementation plan by June 30, 2025.

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.

Identify additional recruitment methods and marketing opportunities for Public Safety hiring. Review and pilot two tactics. (Q4 2025)

- City is taking a targeted approach to recruitment by focusing on local opportunities with community colleges and universities.
 - Enhancing recruitment efforts during Public Safety Open Houses.
- Creation of a project-based Marketing Micro-Internship with Naperville Central and Naperville North High Schools. Working with the Office of Professional Standards and Communications staff, the student will analyze social media opportunities for recruitment and create social media posts and flyers to promote the Cadet Program.
 - Both Fire and Police have a cadet program to assist with recruitment.

Identify opportunities to increase the applicant pool by examining the hiring requirements for entry-level public safety positions. (Q4 2026)

- Added route for RNs to become paramedics; taught as part of the academy.
 - 50% of the participants in an upcoming class are RNs.
- Explore how bordering states use a national registry to obtain paramedics.
- Changed the age requirement for police applications to 20, with appointment age at age 21, to increase the upcoming applicant pool.
- Continue to review hiring requirements for opportunities to streamline the process.

Assess the efficiency of the Board of Fire and Police Commission (BoFPC) processes and update Rules and Regulations as necessary. (Q4 2025)

- Overall and continual review to increase efficiency and improve processes of the BoFPC.
 - Evaluating current Rules and Regulations to determine if necessary and/or could be achieved by other methods, such as standard rule.
- Created and communicated a quarterly testing calendar to ensure BoFPC availability on established test dates.
- Research and identify processes from other communities that improve the timeliness of the BoFPC processes.

Safety Priority Goals - Overview



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Public Safety Community Engagement and Education

- Naperville Police and Fire Departments ready to respond 24/7 if there's a fire, crash, or crime.
- Public safety is a partnership. Prevention is a critical component and something that residents can do to protect themselves and the community.
- **Goal:** By educating residents on how to limit their risk and make their surroundings safer, we can reduce emergencies.
- In addition to the robust education programs of NPD and NFD, we've committed to a minimum of eight community-wide presentations and events annually. These will reach even more people with critical prevention and safety messages.
 - Events to be spread out throughout the year and offered in different formats (both virtual and in-person; presentations and interactive).



2025 Engagement Opportunities

- **Feb. 26 — Scams.** Attendees learned about the latest scams impacting Naperville residents and how to protect themselves.
- **April 23 — Traffic Safety.** Covered the most common causes of crashes in Naperville, how the City works to improve traffic safety, and how motorists can help make our roadways safer.
- **COMING SOON. 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 22, in Council Chambers — Home Fire Prevention.** Presented by the Naperville Fire Department.

Upcoming Topics

PD: Back to School (August)

FD: Holiday Safety (November)

PD/FD: National Night Out Kick-Off

and Neighborhood Events (Aug. 4 & 5)

PD/FD: Public Safety Open House (Sept. 27)

PD: Citizen Police Academy (Spring and Fall)

FD: Citizens Fire Academy





Naperville Police Department

TRAFFIC SAFETY WEBINAR

Link to join free webinar available at:
www.naperville.il.us/NPDCommunityEducation

23 APRIL 12:00 P.M.

Learn about the most common causes of crashes in Naperville, how the City works to improve traffic safety, and how you can help make our roadways safer.





Economy

Economy Priority Goals - Overview



Priority Goal

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

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.

Revenue Diversification

- Evaluate electric, water and wastewater utility rates and recommend rates to support operating and capital needs.
 - 2025-27 rate studies (Oct./Nov. 2024)
 - **Completed**
- Assess impact of grocery tax repeal and evaluate revenue replacement options.
 - Report (Q2 2025)
 - **Staff presented the issue at Financial Advisory Board on April 28, followed by City Council on June 17.**
- Evaluate General Fund revenues and establish guidelines to ensure long-term diversification of revenues.
 - TBD
 - **This will be incorporated into the 2026 budget development process.**
- Assess impact of motor fuel tax decline and evaluate revenue replacement options in coordination with IDOT.
 - TBD
 - **Monitoring closely, but still waiting for IDOT to take the lead.**

Economy Priority Goals - Overview



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Business Retention

- City participating in Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative (BHCLI) and receiving support on I-88 business retention.
- Goal: to develop a plan to use available data to identify businesses that are susceptible to relocating outside the corridor and execute an appropriate course of action to retain or expand their presence.
- Earlier this year, a team from BHCLI traveled to Naperville to conduct on-site interviews, visit the project location, and host workshops.
- Team currently focused on building stakeholder group to present and discuss data and determine action items.



Business Attraction

Two parallel tracks to support growth and retention of business in the I-88 corridor

Growth:

- In 2023, City Council voted to limit warehouse and distribution uses in the ORI I-88 zoning district to preserve the office environment along the corridor.
- In 2024, City Council directed funding to Naperville Development Partnership (NDP) to market the I-88 corridor as a result of post-pandemic shifts affecting the national commercial office market.

Growth — Develop an I-88 corridor economic development strategy

- Fall 2024 — NDP engaged AECOM to develop an economic development strategy to support growth in the I-88 corridor.

Business Attraction



- Key Goals
 - Leverage existing innovation, science and technological strengths of the corridor.
 - Identify five specific target clusters that amplify the existing economic base of the City and region.
 - Support an entrepreneurial ecosystem.
 - Maximize redevelopment potential in the corridor.
- November: Naperville I-88 corridor stakeholder general session event discussing overview of corridor, priority areas and problem areas.
- January – March: AECOM work: stakeholder engagement, corridor context, real estate assessment and analysis, benchmarking, and target industry identification.
- Final economic development strategy will be complete in May, with implementation kickoff in June.



Mobility

Mobility Priority Goals - Overview



Priority Goal

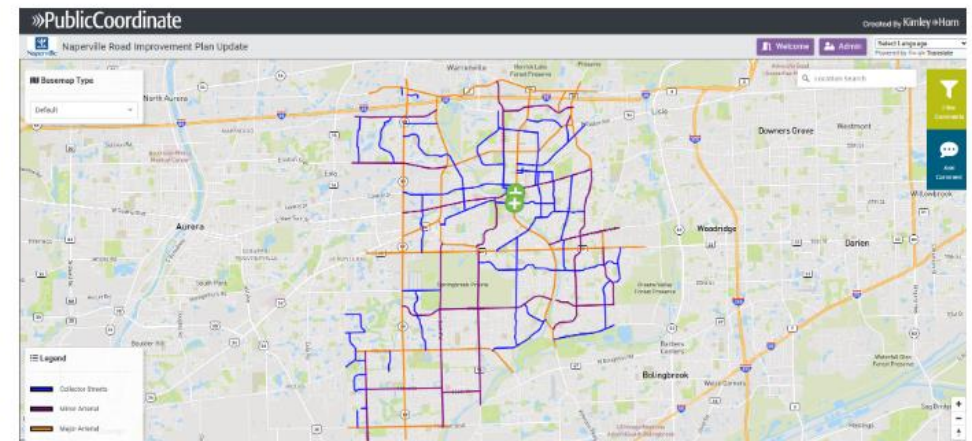
In order to appropriately scale transit service in Naperville, the City will establish transit priorities and advocate in upcoming regional transit reform and funding processes.

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

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 Dec. 31, 2026.

Roadway Improvement Plan

- Held public meeting on Jan. 28, receiving more than 500 comments.
- Presented existing conditions and public comment overview to the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) on May 1.
- Timeline: Present consultant recommendations to TAB in late summer/early fall.
- Present to City Council after TAB for approval.



This is an example of the interactive ArcGIS map where public comments will be collected for the Road Improvement Plan project.

Mobility Priority Goals - Overview



Priority Goal

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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 Dec. 31, 2026.



Bicycle Plan Update

- Staff beginning the process of selecting consultant, with contract award anticipated this summer.
- Fall/winter: Public engagement will begin. (A portion of the public feedback was obtained as part of the Roadway Improvement Plan.)

Next Steps

1

Update community through public webpage and *Connected* newsletter

2

Fall 2025: Update #3 to Council

- Focus on Utilities and Natural Environment/Community Design



A photograph of a modern building with a fountain in the foreground. The building has a dark, textured facade and large glass windows. A fountain with two jets of water is in the foreground. A blue rectangular overlay covers the right side of the image, containing the text "Questions and Discussion".

Questions and Discussion
