

CHAPTER III

GOAL AND OBJECTIVES FOR ORLAND PARK

GOAL:

To create, sustain, and enhance a quality of life within the Village of Orland Park which allows each resident to improve and enjoy life to the fullest extent possible without harm to others or to the natural environment.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Preserve the unique character of Orland Park which has grown out of its natural setting and its generally harmonious development.
2. Reach a balance between the number of families in the community and the space which we have to live in.
3. Establish a pattern of land uses which will promote the highest level of health, safety, efficiency, aesthetics, and general welfare for all segments of the village.
4. Develop a circulation system [highways, collector roads, bikeways, and commuter transit] which will provide for the safe and convenient movement of people and goods within Orland Park and other parts of the region.
5. Develop and update a capital improvements program and financing programs to support the construction of necessary village improvements.

BASIC POLICIES: TO BUILD UPON COMMUNITY STRENGTHS

1. ORLAND PARK-A RECREATION/RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY:

The Plan proposes that Orland Park should continue to emphasize its specialized social and economic functions in the metropolitan Chicago area as a residential community in an open space/recreational setting. This policy is of fundamental importance to the Plan. It means that regional commercial, regional industrial and higher density developments, although of importance to Orland Park, are to be less important and limited.

2. ORLAND PARK'S "UNIQUE CHARACTER":

The Plan basically represents an attempt to respect the special qualities that have resulted from the Village's historical development as a recreational-residential community. This policy, although admittedly difficult to define, is the basis for the most important proposals of the Plan. The dominating role of a leisure lifestyle; the tree covered hills; the close community ties of religion and school; the influence of immigrant German, English, Dutch and Irish traditions; the influence of the Village's large group of Chicago commuters; Orland Park's identity as a retail center of regional importance; the exceptional, high quality of residential areas; and the magnificent physical site surrounded by forest preserves; all of these have contributed to what is known as Orland Park's unique character. In its attempts to appreciate and strengthen these qualities, while at the same time attempting to provide for growth and for those changes that are judged to be necessary and desirable, the Plan represents a positive, cautious approach.

3. COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT:

The Plan proposes to accommodate, but at the same time, to influence the growth and diversification of the community's commercial uses. The physical size of the central regional commercial area must be limited if the unique character of the Village, which is vital to the status of businesses, is to be preserved and enhanced.

4. POPULATION CAPACITY:

The Plan proposes to protect and renew low-density residential neighborhoods in all parts of the village. This policy, combined with allowable increases in the number of housing units surrounding commuter rail stations and employment centers, means that the population of Orland Park, which was 35,000 in 1990, will not be permitted to exceed residential density standards designated in the Plan.

5. METROPOLITAN OPPORTUNITIES:

The Plan proposes that Orland Park help to develop a unified metropolitan region in order to make accessible to Orland Park residents a wide range of jobs and cultural opportunities, and in turn, allow Orland Park businesses to draw upon and be accessible to labor and

clients from metropolitan Chicago. The physical expression of this policy calls for major, concentrated business and employment centers in the Chicago Loop and far west and southwest suburbs to which Orland Park will be linked by a regional rapid transit system and by improved arterial highway capacity.