

## Chapter 4. Goals

Goals are needed for this planning effort to guide the review of the possible mitigation measures. This Plan needs to make sure that the recommended actions are consistent with what is appropriate for Kankakee County. Mitigation goals need to reflect community priorities and be consistent with other plans for the County.

### 4.1. County Plan Goals

The County adopted its current Comprehensive Plan in 1992. The plan includes six elements that cover land use/growth management, transportation, economic development, housing and social services, solid waste management, and environmental resources. The Plan sets general policy guidelines and principles for future development.

The 1992 Plan has ten general long range goals. Each has more specific statements. The ten goals and the statements relevant to natural hazards mitigation planning are listed here:

1. Manage the growth and development of Kankakee County to provide for efficient and harmonious land use patterns
  - Limit development to areas of suitable soil types
  - Preserve the rivers, floodplain and forested areas of the County for recreational use, open space, and compatible commercial and residential use
2. Provide a safe, efficient and balanced transportation system
  - Improve traffic safety
3. Promote diversified economic development in order to encourage business investment and increase employment opportunities
4. Provide adequate land for business and industrial expansion
5. Maintain quality of housing stock
  - Preserve and rehabilitate older housing
  - Investigate loan programs for housing maintenance
  - Maintain a pro-active code enforcement program
  - Enforce building and life safety codes
6. Support the development of adequate housing for various population groups
  - Support housing rehabilitation and weatherization programs
7. Improve social services
8. Develop and implement a balanced solid waste management program
9. Balance the use of environmental resources
  - Protect flood plains, prime agricultural land, unique and sensitive areas and sites unsuited for urbanization
  - Protect and enhance the Kankakee and Iroquois rivers and their tributaries
  - Mitigate the effects of sedimentation of the rivers and their tributaries
10. Enhance the development of open space and recreational facilities

As this mitigation plan was being prepared, a new comprehensive plan was being completed. The draft (as of the publication of this plan) sets 21 goals under four broad categories. These goals are still being refined and cannot be quoted. However, there are some related to hazard mitigation, the general thrust of which are paraphrased here:

1. Land use and economic development
  - Ensure development minimizes impacts on natural resources
  - Improve housing conditions and the building code
2. Transportation
3. Natural resources/open space
  - Preserve the Kankakee River as an asset
  - Safeguard environmental features and natural resources
  - Manage floodplain development, wetland protection and stormwater runoff
4. Public facilities.
  - Raise public awareness about water quality and stormwater issues

## 4.2. Municipal Plan Goals

Several municipalities have their own comprehensive plans which reflect similar concerns. For example, Bonfield's 1998 plan includes the following goal and action statements:

### Land Use...

Goal: Provide adequate development opportunities while recognizing environmental constraints such as soil types with severe development limitations...

- Action #3: Require the submission of a comprehensive drainage plan provided by the developer for proposed subdivision developments...

### Economic Development...

- Action #4: Update and enforce zoning and building regulations to ensure high quality developments and safe buildings...

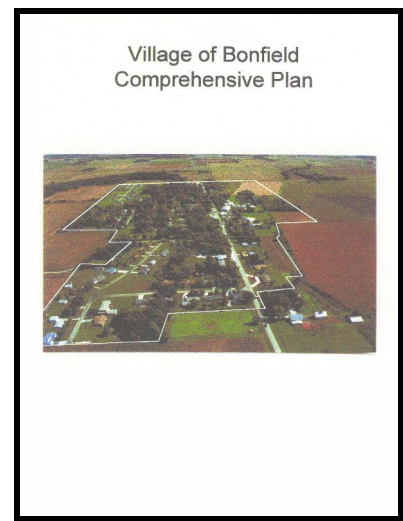
### Housing...

Goal: Maintain a quality housing stock...

- Action #3: Explore the possibility of a Village sponsored housing rehabilitation program to encourage the updating of the existing housing stock...
- Action #5: Develop an effective code enforcement program to ensure the preservation and rehabilitation of the existing housing stock...

### Community Resources and Public Facilities

- Action #6: The Village will require developers of land to financially participate in ... road and drainage improvements, to and from their development



As another example, the City of Kankakee's 1997 Comprehensive Plan has the following:

Land Use Goals

- c. Maintain and rehabilitate existing housing stock.

Transportation Goals

- 7. Promote traffic safety.

Community Facility Goals

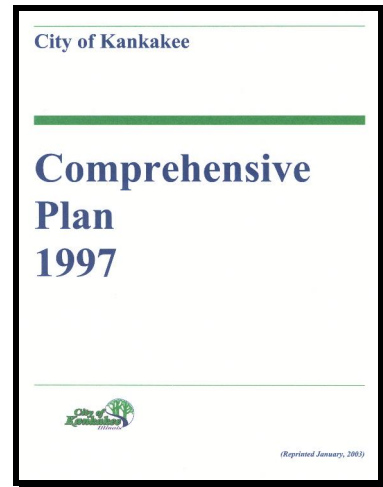
- 6. Review and upgrade sewer system treatment and storm drainage.

Housing Goals

- 1. Maintain the quality of existing housing stock.

Economic Development Goals

- 7. Maximize the Kankakee River as a recreational resource.



### 4.3. Goal Setting

At its April 14, 2005, meeting, the Mitigation Advisory Task Force members were given two handouts. The first was designed to help set the stage for mitigation planning. It asked "What would you most like to see in Kankakee County's future?" The second handout asked "What should be the goals of our mitigation program?"

Each handout had a list of possible answers plus space for the respondent to add others. These two handouts appear on the next two pages. The instructions mention completing cards, but because of a lack of time, each Task Force member checked off his or her top five choices on the handout. The next two pages show the number of members who selected each response.

As seen by the tallies on the next two pages, many of the possible responses were selected. A few subjects had a lot of support:

- Educating children and keeping them in the area
- Having improved and safe transportation
- Improving businesses and job opportunities
- Making sure future development does not make things worse
- Protecting lives and health
- Protecting critical facilities, public services and utilities
- Helping people protect themselves and minimizing local public expenditures

Several of these priority areas coincide with the 1992 Comprehensive Plan's goals, the draft goals for the 2005 Comprehensive Plan, and goals stated in municipal comprehensive plans.

### Goals Exercise 1.

#### What would you most like to see in Kankakee County's future?

Here are possible answers to this question, listed in alphabetical order. They are just food for thought. Pick the five that you think are most important. You may reword them or add new ones if you want.

You have five cards. Use one card for each of your top five answers.

- 14 Educated children
  - Improved air quality
- 10 Improved roads and transportation
- 2 Improved water quality
- 4 Improved/more businesses
- 1 Improved/more cultural facilities
  - Improved/more housing
- 13 Improved/more job opportunities
- 2 Improved/more open space
- 2 Improved/more public transportation
- 4 Improved/more recreation facilities
  - Improved/more shopping
- 1 Improved/stronger agricultural sector
  - Less new development
- 4 Less traffic congestion
- 1 More knowledgeable residents
- 1 New development confined to areas already developed
  - Preserved historical/cultural sites
- 2 Special attention given to elderly/disabled
- 1 Special attention given to farmers
- 2 Special attention given to lower income areas
- 2 Special attention given to minority neighborhoods
  - Special attention given to newer shopping areas
- 2 Special attention given to older business areas
- 6 Younger people staying/moving into the area
- 1 Other: sewer systems
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Goals Exercise 2.

### What should be the goals of our mitigation program?

Here are possible answers to this question, listed in alphabetical order. They are just food for thought. Pick the five that you think are most important. You may reword them or add new ones if you want.

You have five cards. Use one card for each of your top five answers.

- 5 Help people protect themselves
- 10 Make sure future development doesn't make things worse
- 1 Maximize the share paid by benefiting property owners
- 6 Maximize use of state and federal funds
- 3 Minimize property owners' expenditures
- 2 Minimize public expenditures
- 1 New developments should pay the full cost of protection measures
  - Protect businesses from damage
  - Protect cars and other vehicles
- 2 Protect centers of employment
- 7 Protect critical facilities
  - Protect farms, crops and livestock
  - Protect forests
- 3 Protect homes
- 2 Protect new/future buildings
- 5 Protect people's lives
- 5 Protect public health
- 5 Protect public services (fire, police, etc.)
- 1 Protect repetitively flooded areas
- 5 Protect roads, streets and bridges
- 1 Protect scenic areas, greenways, etc.
- 4 Protect schools
  - Protect shopping areas
- 6 Protect utilities (power, phone, water, sewer, etc.)
- 2 Protect wetlands/environmentally sensitive areas
- 2 Restrict development in hazardous areas
- 1 Use public/private partnerships
  - Protect a particular area: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Protect a particular property: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Protect a particular property: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **4.4. Goals**

Based on the comprehensive planning goals and the input from the Mitigation Advisory Task Force members, the following goals statements were adopted by the Task Force:

1. Protect the lives, health, safety, and welfare of the people of Kankakee County from the dangers of natural hazards.
2. Place a priority on protecting public services, including critical facilities, utilities, roads, and schools.
3. Educate people about the hazards they face and the ways they can protect themselves, their homes, and their businesses from those hazards.
4. Manage future development to minimize the potential for damage from natural hazards and adverse impacts on other properties.
5. Preserve and protect the rivers and floodplains of the County.