

8. IMPLEMENTATION

This Chapter summarizes and prioritizes the Comprehensive Plan's numerous recommendations. It can serve as a "quick reference tool" to review the major actions recommended in the plan, as well as a checklist to measure plan implementation. The formal adoption of the 2030 Kankakee County Comprehensive Plan is only the first step in the implementation process. The Plan sets forth an agreed-upon "road map" of actions for the next 10 years. It is the product of considerable effort on the part of the Kankakee County Board, Regional Planning Commission, and Planning Department, as well as municipal representatives, community leaders, and concerned citizens. Without continuing action to implement the Plan, the County's efforts up to this point will have little lasting impact. The Kankakee County Planning Department, working with a range of implementation partners, will be the lead facilitator to coordinate efforts and implement the Plan.

A. Implementation Summaries

Implementation of the Comprehensive Plan will require on-going and long-term commitment. The majority of the Plan's recommendations will require support from County personnel. Thus it is likely the County will need to hire additional staff with appropriate experience. The extent to which meaningful and sustained progress can be made will depend on the availability and acceptability of financial resources and assistance programs.

The Plan's implementation actions are described in detail in their respective chapters. The implementation tables on the following pages summarize and prioritize the actions:

- Table 8.1: Land Use Implementation Summary
- Table 8.2: Transportation Implementation Summary
- Table 8.3: Natural Resources, Open Space, & Recreation Implementation Summary
- Table 8.4: Public Facilities Implementation Summary
- Table 8.5: Economic Development Implementation Summary

Actions are categorized as low, medium, or high in priority based on a general timeframe for implementation after the Plan's adoption. In general, high-priority actions should be completed by 2009; medium-priority actions should be completed by 2012; and, low-priority actions should be completed by 2015. Since implementation actions are subject to change over time, suggested priorities and timing should be flexible to meet County needs.



Table 8.1: Land Use Implementation Summary

Recommendation Number	Implementation Actions	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
1.A	Provide comprehensive planning assistance to municipalities	X		
1.B	Seek adoption of supportive municipal resolutions for County Land Use Plan	X		
1.C	Promote the adoption of Joint Land Resource Management Plans	X		
1.D	Provide "best practice" models for land use planning and control		X	
2.A	Encourage annexation of developments within ETJ's	X		
2.B	Help determine annexation incentives for existing developments		X	
3.A	Consider increasing minimum lot size for farm homes in agricultural areas		X	
3.B	Consider a purchase-of-development rights (PDR) program			X
4.A	Update zoning regulations consistent with the Land Use Plan	X		
4.B	Reduce the over-supply of unincorporated R1 residential zoned land	X		
4.C	Reduce the over-supply of unincorporated industrially zoned land	X		
4.D	Reduce the over-supply of unincorporated commercially zoned land	X		
5.A	Encourage and support traditional "Main Street" commercial districts		X	
5.B	Encourage and support existing industrial districts within municipalities		X	
5.C	Encourage and support urban infill incentive programs		X	



Table 8.2: Transportation Implementation Summary

Recommendation Number	Implementation Actions	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
1.A	Provide support for I-57 interchange improvements	X		
1.B	Facilitate construction of the I-57/6000 N. Road interchange	X		
1.C	Facilitate engineering studies for U.S. 45 and Rt. 50 improvements	X		
1.D	Develop a local roadways assessment plan for the North I-57 Corridor	X		
1.E	Support expansion of the Greater Kankakee Airport		X	
2.A	Discuss potential expansion of Kankakee Urbanized Area with Village of Manteno	X		
2.B	Pursue expansion of METRA service to Kankakee with IDOT		X	
3.A	Preserve "clear corridors" for the County's total tier system	X		
3.B	Facilitate preliminary engineering study for 9000 N. Road widening		X	
3.C	Develop joint land use plans to reduce Tier 1 improvements in rural areas	X		
4.A	Consider developing rural roadways program for farm vehicle usage			X
4.B	Discourage residential developments along gravel roads	X		
5.A	Work with Will County to persuade IDOT on regional east-west access	X		
5.B	Facilitate engineering studies for 6000 N. Road Corridor	X		
5.C	Facilitate joint feasibility study for the 12,000 N. Road Corridor		X	



Table 8.3: Natural Resources, Open Space, & Recreation Implementation Summary

Recommendation Number	Implementation Actions	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
1.A	Promote a county-wide open space management entity		X	
1.B	Update development regulations to protect 100-year floodplains	X		
1.C	Adopt a county-wide storm water management program	X		
1.D	Provide planning grants for public access studies	X		
2.A	Update County's development regulations for waterfront buffers	X		
2.B	Update regulations to allow conservation development	X		
2.C	Promote designation of county-wide land trust to manage greenways		X	
2.D	Conduct a detailed natural resources inventory for the entire County		X	
2.E	Promote planning assistance to create greenways & trails system		X	
3.A	Provide planning assistance (for Momence Wetlands preservation)		X	
3.B	Enlist assistance of the IDNR on Momence Wetlands		X	
3.C	Study potential for state park designation for Momence Wetlands		X	
4.A	Provide planning assistance (to preserve prairies in Pembroke Twp)		X	
4.B	Promote environmental sustainability principles within Pembroke Twp	X		
5.A	Provide planning assistance for Essex & Essex Twp on former strip mines		X	
5.B	Enlist assistance of IDNR on former strip mines in Essex Twp		X	
6.A	Utilize LESA Program to preserve Prime 1 agricultural soils		X	
6.B	Consider increasing minimum lot area for farm dwellings		X	
6.C	Investigate potential for farmland conservation easement program			X



Table 8.4: Public Facilities Implementation Summary

Recommendation Number	Implementation Actions	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
1.A	Work with County Health Dept. on innovative sewer system models		X	
2.A	Update subdivision regulations to require public school impact fee	X		
3.A	Create a GIS-based computer repository of county-wide public facilities			X
3.B	Create a county-wide facilities consortium to lobby service providers			X

Table 8.5: Economic Development Implementation Summary

Recommendation Number	Implementation Actions	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
1.A	Coordinate regular meetings of local economic development organizations	X		
1.B	Conduct a telecommunications assessment for Kankakee Urbanized Area		X	
1.C	Conduct a live-work employment survey		X	
2.A	Investigate capacity expansion for the Greater Kankakee Airport	X		
2.B	Help establish improved industrial parks in the County	X		
3.A	Investigate the human resource needs of major employers		X	
3.B	Coordinate with local colleges and universities on market opportunities			X



B. Implementation Monitoring and Plan Review

Monitoring Plan Progress - The Kankakee County Report Card

Plan implementation will require active monitoring to determine whether Plan goals and objectives are being met. Below, several "tracking" measures have been identified which the County has data, or can easily obtain data, on which to judge change within the County. This will allow the greater community to assess the effectiveness of Plan policy over time. Tracking these measures will allow the County to determine whether Plan policy is adequate, or whether updated or new policies and implementation techniques should be added to the Plan to realize the County's goals. The measures identified below could be modified or expanded over time to best suit program monitoring needs.

Land-Use and Development Indicators

- Percentage of new housing starts in the County, in unincorporated ETJ's, and within municipalities
- Number of standard subdivisions vs. conservation developments
- Number of total dwelling units on individual well and septic vs. community systems
- Number of new residential permits within the County vs. the municipalities
- The location of new non-residential development (County vs. municipal)

Economic Development Indicators

- Net Job growth (Number and type of new jobs created)
- Square feet of new industrial development (County-wide)
- Square feet of new commercial development (County-wide)
- Per capita Income
- Agricultural employment
- Change in the number of those receiving college degrees
- Change in County poverty levels
- Number of technology training/curricula at higher educational institutions
- Rate of Unemployment
- Commuting patterns - % workers leaving the County



Public Facilities and Service indicators

- Communities with schools and parks and recreation impact fees
- New intergovernmental agreements for shared services
- Acreage of new public parks and open spaces, (local County and State)
- Level of County staffing to support plan implementation
- Completion of key public improvements, such as interchanges, and municipal water and waste water treatment systems.

Plan Review and Update

The Comprehensive Plan is not a static document; the planning process must be continuous. The Plan should be monitored and updated on a regular basis. The need for Plan amendments is the result of many influences. Most frequently these are brought about by changes in attitudes or emerging needs not foreseen at the time of Plan adoption.

The County should initiate review of the Plan at least every five years. Ideally, this review should coincide with the preparation of the annual budget and capital improvement program. In this manner, recommendations or changes relating to capital improvements or other programs can be considered as part of the upcoming commitments for the fiscal year. Routine examination of the Plan will help ensure that the planning program remains relevant to County needs and aspirations.

A systematic review should include an evaluation of the collective observations of the Kankakee County Board, Regional Planning Commission, and Planning Department. Invitation to discuss and evaluate the Plan should be extended to appropriate public agencies, civic groups, and the public-at-large.

