

VILLAGE OF DEER PARK VISION STATEMENT

In the year 2035, the Village of Deer Park has maintained itself as a small, friendly, yet growing community.

The Village of Deer Park has a flourishing downtown known for its Main Street. It is attractive with nice shade trees and flower displays and several small retail shops, a coffee shop and a gas station/convenience store. The residents, young and old, can safely walk on sidewalks and bike from our existing housing, new housing developments and senior housing to Main Street and our prosperous and active churches.

Existing and new housing are filled with young families. Our neighborhoods are safe, friendly, and drug-free. The village has created senior housing in association with the senior center which accommodates singles and married couples and serves meals daily.

Deer Park's well equipped park has walking trails leading out of the park throughout the community. The walking paths around the park encourage residents to enjoy the hometown beauty and nightly softball games.

The village has created a community center for young and old which is open and available almost every day. Community meetings and social gatherings are held there and it has helped to keep our residents strongly involved in village issues. Many other services are also available. The library has expanded; a new fire hall was constructed; and the village has its own police service. The Village Board has managed to identify other forms of funding rather than property taxes.

Deer Park has a taxi service to accommodate the elderly and others who don't drive. The village has worked with the County and others to make the streets safer. There are job opportunities in the village and the village buildings utilize alternative energy sources such as solar and wind power.

ELEMENT-BASED VISION STATEMENTS

Utilities & Community Facilities

We value our expanded library hours and our new senior citizen and community center. For the safety of our citizens, we expanded the size of the fire department. The existing sewer treatment plant and water tower have reached capacity and we are looking into a larger sewer plant and water tower to better serve our residents. The Deer Park Village Park is improved, clean and free of weeds. The village has planted new trees and flower beds along Main Street and in the park using as many perennials and native species as possible.

Transportation

Deer Park has many modes of transportation available internally including bike trails, sidewalks, and local roads. Snowmobile trails and ATV trails are nearby. A taxi or van service is available for the elderly and anyone with disabilities. We are working with the county and other entities to understand the feasibility of light rail or other types of rail service. We have worked with the county to reroute and make Highway 46 safer.

Economic Development

The village has taken a proactive approach to economic development to fill empty buildings, such as the former print shop; to recruit new businesses such as a convenience store, and to retain the businesses currently operating.

Natural Resources

Part of our heritage and our name originates from a deer pen. Presently Department of Natural Resources and US Fish and Wildlife lands in and around Deer Park maintain an abundance of deer within and just outside the village limits. We have worked to preserve and beautify the wetlands and other lands located within the village in part to ensure wildlife abundance, but also groundwater quality. The village has figured out new ways to manage stormwater runoff, particularly in the spring.

Cultural Resources

Another part of our heritage comes from our historical buildings – the old bank, the old school, the old hotel/house, and the ball park in addition to other historic and older homes. We have kept our traditional July celebration that brings residents together and have incorporated an educational component housed in the library so that all residents can understand and cherish our community.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

Deer Park continues to work with the Town of Cylon and St. Croix County on coordinated police services, park and road improvements.

Land Use and Housing

The Village of Deer Park kept the small town atmosphere by helping landowners maintain many old buildings, such as historic homes, in addition to maintaining single family and duplex housing on nice size lots. The village has worked with landowners to maintain well kept homes and has created larger lot sizes for new homes. Deer Park has new single family homes on the west and northeast side. Many of these houses are located on larger lots. We have also allowed for more affordable housing on smaller lots. We have a new senior housing complex within the village that accommodates both singles and married couples. We have created a walkable community by adding sidewalks throughout the village.

The village has enhanced the appearance of the area around the former county highway shop and along Main Street so that it is more inviting through the use of trees and flowers. The north and south ends of the village have been updated with new signs.