Committee Plans Review Of Comprehensive Plan Update

By Lauren Barry | on December 05, 2018   December 4, 2018

A new 10-year plan to guide elected officials and city staff in their decision making was sent back to the Community Development Committee Monday (Dec. 3) following city council discussion of the current draft.

Des Plaines first adopted a Comprehensive Plan, an official policy to guide all aspects of the city, in 1958. It most recently updated the plan in 2007.

According to the proposed plan, most of the goals outlined in the previous plan have been achieved.

New goals include: expanding mixed-use developments, providing a range of housing options, incorporating more parks and open space into the city, incorporating more green infrastructure to improve flooding, preservation of historic buildings and focusing on "inclusive growth opportunities" to help stimulate the local economy.

These goals are applied to seven different categories, including: land use and development, economic development, housing, transportation, diversity and inclusion, water resource management and downtown Des Plaines.

In addition to details about each goal and category, the plan contains an overview of community outreach data, current strengths of the city and possible vulnerabilities.

For the past two years, the city has worked with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning to garner community feedback on the project via surveys, public meetings and focus groups. This research went into creating an existing conditions report used to develop the plan.

Last month, a draft of the proposed plan was presented during an open house and was edited based on review. This month, the Des Plaines Plan Commission recommended adopting the plan.

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