

## Chapter 3. Goals

### 3.1. 1999 Plan Goals

In 1999, the Floodplain Management Planning Committee adopted four general goals for Calumet City's flood problems and floodprone areas. They are listed in the Committee's priority order. Each goal had three to five objectives that specified how the goal should be reached.

*Goal 1: New development will be protected from flooding.* The top priority of the Committee was to keep flooding, drainage and sewer problems from getting worse. Damage-prone development should not be allowed in the most hazardous areas and protection measures should be incorporated into new developments elsewhere.

*Goal 2: Existing buildings will be protected from sewer backup and smaller, more frequent flooding.* By the year 2013, the Thornton Quarry will protect all but a small portion of the Little Calumet River's 100-year floodplain. In the meantime, it makes sense to address smaller flooding along the Little Calumet River with cost-effective approaches and the local drainage and sewer problems throughout the City.

*Goal 3: All residents and businesses will be knowledgeable about the flood hazards they face and the ways they can protect themselves and their properties from those hazards.* The City cannot afford to stop all flooding. There will always be problems, even after the major efforts expected over the next several years. Therefore, it is important for individuals and property owners to know what they can do for themselves.

*Goal 4: Riverfront open space, wetlands and natural areas will be protected for the public to enjoy.* These areas need to be preserved and protected as alternatives to damage-prone residential and commercial development and as community assets that improve recreation and the quality of life in Calumet City.

### 3.2. Goal Setting Exercise

On February 3, 2005, the Planning Committee conducted an exercise to outline its goals for this multi-hazard mitigation plan. Each member was given the handout that appears on the next page, asking "What would you most like to see in Calumet City's future?"

Committee members wrote down their top five choices on a Post-it card. Each member then posted them on the wall and explained their choices. The cards were then organized by similar topics. The resulting desires are listed in alphabetical order:

- Better control of development, more open spaces, less traffic congestion
- Economic improvement



## Goals Exercise 1.

### What would you most like to see in Calumet City'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.

- Educated children
- Improved air quality
- Improved water quality
- Less new development
- Less traffic congestion
- Improved/more businesses
- Improved/more cultural facilities
- Improved/more housing
- Improved/more public transportation
- Improved/more job opportunities
- Improved/more knowledgeable residents
- Improved/more open space
- Improved/more recreation facilities
- Improved/more shopping
- New development confined to areas already developed
- Preserved historical/cultural sites
- Special attention given to elderly/disabled
- Special attention given to lower income areas
- Special attention given to minority neighborhoods
- Special attention given to newer shopping areas
- Special attention given to older business areas
- Younger people staying/moving into the area
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 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.

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

- Housing improvement
- Improved water and air quality, less traffic congestion
- More knowledgeable residents and children
- Special attention to the elderly, disabled, and lower income areas
- Special attention to younger people

There was a good amount of consistency in the members' topics. The handout has 22 possible statements, but the members' nominations included fewer than half of them. Several of them were not listed in the handout.

A second exercise was then conducted. Each member was given the handout that appears on page 3-3, asking "What should be the goals of our mitigation program?" Again, Committee members wrote down their top five choices on a Post-it card. Each member then posted them on the wall and explained their choices. The cards were then organized by similar topics. The resulting goals are listed in alphabetical order:

- Make sure development does not make things worse
- Maximize the use of State and Federal funds
- Protect forests, open spaces and wetlands
- Protect homes
- Protect lives and public health
- Protect public services, critical facilities and utilities
- Protect repetitively flooded areas
- Protect schools

The exercise revealed important information to guide the planning effort, both in what was selected from the handout and what was not selected from the handout. For example, members stressed protecting lives, homes, and public services, even though improving the economy was an important part of their vision for the future.

### **3.3. Goals**

Based on the 1999 floodplain management plan's goals and the 2005 goal setting exercise, the following goals statements were adopted by the Planning Committee:

1. Protect the people of Calumet City, their homes and their health, from the dangers of natural hazards.
2. Place a priority on protecting public services, including critical facilities, utilities and schools.
3. Inform residents and businesses about the hazards they face and the ways they can protect themselves and their properties from those hazards.
4. Protect open space, wetlands and natural areas for the public to enjoy and to prevent inappropriate development in hazardous areas.