
HERMANTOWN 2001

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

VISION STATEMENT

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Future Hermantown in the year 2020 will not be vastly different than the Hermantown that exists today. Future Hermantown will have most of the same characteristics of Hermantown 2001. Residential development will continue to be the dominant land use surrounded by abundant open areas and public spaces for passive and active recreation. The number of residents will increase to over 10,000 people for the first time ever, but the new developments will have blended with the character of the community and located in areas suitable for the land use.

The center for government and the community will have shifted to new locations and the old facilities will have been converted to meet other community needs. The high school, middle school and elementary school remain as the focal point for youth and families. Intergenerational programs build on the wealth of knowledge and energy of Hermantown's senior population. A visitor to future Hermantown will likely encounter the following conditions:

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

Residential - development has moved away from the high speed county and state highways to more secluded lands in the section interiors. Residential development in the area east of Ugstad Road is served by city water and the trunk sewer project has enabled many existing developed areas to receive service. This area is considered suburban because population densities have remained moderate due to lot requirements and public open space standards.

The area generally west of Lindahl Road has retained its rural characteristics because of zoning restrictions and limits on utility extensions beyond the Service Boundary established by the comprehensive plan.

There is a mix of housing types including multi-family for seniors and young people. Neighborhood characteristics have been preserved through strict enforcement of development standards where new single and multi-family homes were developed. The wetlands and drainage ways of the city in residential areas are protected and enhanced by new development.

Traffic and public safety considerations are built into all new developments. The development has not overloaded local streets or isolated properties from rapid emergency response.

Open Space and Recreation

Hermantown has endeavored to upgrade public recreation facilities and preserved considerable areas for open space and habitat preservation. These undeveloped spaces are unsuitable for development because of shallow depth to water table or bedrock. Stream and river valleys have remained protected and the Miller Creek and Keene Creek watersheds are no longer subject to periodic floods.

New parks for family and passive recreation have been developed. Keene Creek park is a center for the Southeast area neighborhoods and draws residents across the city for family and community events. Hermantown's athletic fields are first rate and provide all of the community's youth with opportunities for individual and team sports.

The facilities owned by the City are serving Hermantown residents of all ages. School District Facilities are also available for use by City residents when not being used for school events or curriculum.

The City has added new park areas through donations and development requirements. Preservation areas have been added to the inventory of public property by donation of conservation easements to the City and the public.

Commercial Development

The Trunk Highway 53 corridor has evolved into an efficient pathway for through traffic and access to local businesses through implementation of detailed access management plans and careful development of adjacent lands. The corridor has developed into commercial nodes that are served by both the highway and the local street system.

The Trunk Highway 53 Corridor in Hermantown is a distinctive stretch of urban highway because of the attention of the various land uses to landscape features, building styles and signage. The area between the Lindahl Road and the Haines Road on Trunk Highway 53 is the most intensely developed with two tiers of commercial uses. The heavy industrial and airport zoning uses in the corridor represent the low density area of the highway and the transition to the rural areas.

Hermantown businesses benefit from the availability of public utilities and high

speed connections to the Internet.

Industrial Development

Industrial development is concentrated in the Hermantown Enterprise Center, the Trunk Highway 53 corridor and the U.S Highway 2 corridors. Light industrial uses in the Hermantown Enterprise Center are uses that are compatible with single family and multiple family uses in close proximity. Heavy truck traffic during late evening and early morning hours is avoided, along with uses that might present a pollution problem to the area.

The Highway 2 corridor is limited to residential and light industrial or highway service uses that serve the industrial sector. Existing residences are buffered from new uses by fencing, landscaping and other similar visual/noise barriers. When necessary, single access points can serve a number of properties and limit the number of access points in the developed stretch of the highway.

The Trunk Highway 53 corridor has a minor role for industrial uses but there are those that have existed for decades and new uses that are consistent with commercial uses and the overall design theme of the corridor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Future Hermantown maintains the same level of public safety that existed in 2001. Police, Fire and Emergency Response personnel are highly trained and well equipped. Land use planning is considerate of public safety concerns and the City is known for well lighted, signed, marked and patrolled streets. Commercial and industrial uses are designed to resist fires and a strong code enforcement program benefits all sectors of the City.

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND UTILITIES

Development in the community has been guided by a strict growth management program that has resulted in orderly growth of the community and efficient delivery of public services. Leap frog development that strains the ability to serve existing and new development is not permitted.

The Hermantown schools, city hall, public safety building, existing and new park areas along Maple Grove Road are the core or the center of Hermantown. This area is surrounded by residential development for both young and old.

EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Future Hermantown is served by modern cable and wireless systems that

provides all residents with access to information technology and communications.

Eastern Hermantown is primarily served by cable because of the higher density of development. Western Hermantown residents have access to wireless systems through a planned system of commercial towers that has provided the rural area with the same access as the suburban area of the city.

Businesses in the TH 53 corridor have access to both systems and city government is linked to both business and education. The schools have the ability to connect with all of their staff and students through the cable and wireless systems.

Hermantown's medical facilities and other care providers are served by a region-wide network of doctors, clinics and hospitals.

Sustainable Development

Future Hermantown's Growth Management program has successfully guided and meshed new development with existing neighborhoods. Phased development has resulted in sustainable commercial and residential development. The City actively works to identify areas suitable for a variety of housing rehabilitation and infrastructure improvements that maintain property values throughout the City.

Livable Community

A safe, secure, clean and vibrant City has continued into the future because of quality families and people, which are attracted to the community because of its numerous educational, social and civic amenities.