VILLAGE OF PARK RIDGE

Strategic Planning Task Force Meeting

In-Person Meeting at Village Hall, 24 Crestwood Drive

(Open to the public via Zoom; see link below)

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.

Task Force Members:
Matt Chitwood, Chair; Dan Holloway; Brian Kozlowski; Phil Kruthoff; Steve Menzel; Gordon Renfert
Facilitators: Nathan Sandwick, UW Extension; Daniel Foth, UW Extention (Madison); Meg Erler

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MEETING AGENDA:

1. Convene into open session (Matt Chitwood, Chair)
2. Review/Approval of 4/27/22 meeting minutes
3. Review finalized draft Strategic Plan
6. Discuss next public input session
7. Set date (and place) for next meeting
8. Adjourn

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION (for interested citizens unable to attend)

Join Zoom Meeting:
Topic: Strategic Planning Task Force Meeting
Time: May 25, 2022, 05:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8464629990?pwd=MmNiR1pFZ24wbmRPNGk2VkZET3Nsdz09

Meeting ID: 846 462 9990
Passcode: 737897
****

One half or more members of the Village Board may be present at this meeting for information gathering purposes

Requests from persons with disabilities who need assistance to participate in this meeting should be made to the Clerk's Office at 715-343-1590 with as much advance notice as possible.

Posted: Tuesday, April 26, 2021



Village of Park Ridge Strategic Plan

2022-2026

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Introduction

Background and Purpose of the Strategic Plan

The Village of Park Ridge established a Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF) on April 19th, 2021 with the following description and purpose:

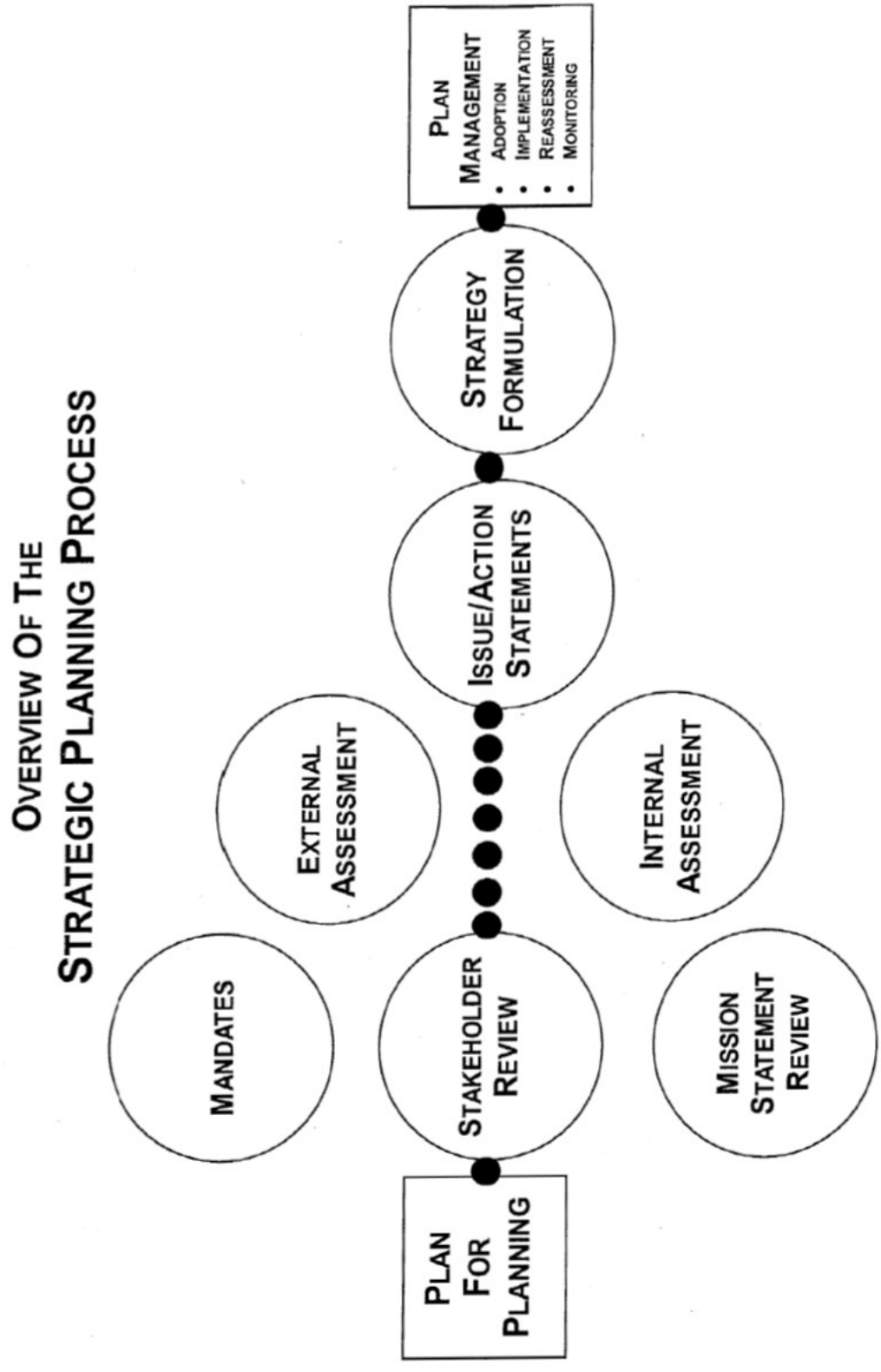
> *The Village of Park Ridge Strategic Planning Task Force is an ad hoc body that serves in an advisory capacity to the Village Board, providing visioning and strategic direction as needed for the Village. Its goal is to assist the board in:*
>
> 1. *Identifying and clarifying the Village's needs;*
> 2. *Prioritizing those needs with citizen input, and;*
> 3. *Determining a strategy for managing the financial resources necessary to meet those needs over time (using professional consultants, if deemed necessary by the Village Board).*
>
> *The SPTF's work should, whenever possible, parallel the efforts of the Comprehensive Planning Committee and must provide recommendations that are consistent with the Village's adopted Comprehensive Plan.*
>
> **Initial Strategic Planning Task Force Membership:**
>
> - TWO Village Trustees
> - THREE members of the Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC)
> - TWO Village residents who are NOT Trustees or CPC members
> - Task Force Chair shall be appointed by the Village President

Process Overview

The Strategic Planning Task Force held its first meeting on June 29, 2021, and met at least monthly through the time of this writing (May 2022). Matthew Chitwood, Village resident, has chaired the Task Force. Other residents who have served on the Task Force are: Dan Holloway, Brian Kozlowski, Phil Kruthoff, Gordon Renfert and Steve Menzel.

Nathan Sandwick, Community Development Educator for Extension Portage County, has served as facilitator, along with contributing input from Daniel Foth, J.D., UW-Madison Extension Local Government Specialist, Local Government Education Program and Director, Certified Public Manager Program, and Meg Erler, a former Park Ridge resident who has extensive strategic planning experience with the Village of Plover and the Stevens Point Area Public School District.

The Task Force has generally followed the strategic planning process as described in John Bryson's book, *Strategic Planning for Public and Nonprofit Organizations*. A brief overview of the process is depicted in the following flow chart graphic:



Plan Elements

Stakeholder Review and Analysis

The Village of Park Ridge Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF) identified the following as key stakeholders for the Village, along with their respective values and expectations:

Stakeholders	Stakeholders' Expectations
Residents: old and young; renters and homeowners; married or single; with or without children; long-time residents and newcomers.	• Residents generally expect to maintain independence and identity and like knowing who's in this area - a safe and nice community. • Neighbors expect each other to take care of property, yet preferences vary (pride in lawns, appreciation of nature). • Some expect road repair. • Residents expect consistent utilities, good internet, safe water. • Newcomers may be more open to change. • Long-time residents may expect stability, and low taxes. • Older residents may expect stability (not big changes), and safe walkways. • Homeowners expect steady valuation, and fire protection ratings. • "Getting things done (not push it down the road)."
Business owners, operators, and patrons	• Business owners/managers expect adequate parking, promotion, high quality safety and emergency services with rapid response times; and expect that the Village to be a good partner that listens and responds promptly to requests and questions.
Neighboring communities (notably the City of Stevens Point)	• Residents value some advantages like the ability to take brush to Stevens Point. • City of Stevens Point expects adequate wellhead protection.
Service providers: City of Stevens Point Water & Wastewater Utility; Portage Co. Sheriff's office; Mutual-Aid Fire Departments; V. Park	• Service providers (such as trash and recycling collectors) increasingly expect services to be uniform (across municipal

Ridge Fire Department; Emergency / safety services; Stevens Point Area School District	boundaries). • Service providers require adequate roads, and that roads and alleys remain clear (brush cleared, clearance for tall vehicles). • The community expects visibility and reliable provision of quality services.
Recreation participants	Park users expect access (roads, paths)
Voters	Voters expect to be heard, and expect transparency. Village expects volunteers, resources and equipment to meet voters' expectation of secure elections. Open, non-partisan communication
Taxpayers	Taxpayers and the Village expect a sustainable budget.

Mission, Vision, Values

- **Mission:**
  Provide leadership, services and infrastructure to sustain a safe, attractive, vibrant and welcoming community.
- **Vision:**
  A thriving, beautiful, well-maintained community; one that is green and peaceful, with a natural park-like feel. A community that is safe and welcoming; with friendly, connected neighbors; and sustainable, suitable businesses. Finally, one with a government that is sustainable, open-minded, innovative, transparent, and fiscally responsible. The best place in Portage County.
- **Values:**
  EFFICIENCY: *We aim to provide our residents, taxpayers, businesses and visitors with responsive, fiscally prudent and sustainable government and public services.*

  HONESTY: *We are open and forthright with the public; we treat all with respect and dignity, sharing relevant information, inviting opportunities for two-way communication and listening intently.*

  INNOVATION: *We continuously look to adopt creative and better ways to serve our mission and achieve our vision for the Village of Park Ridge.*

  SAFETY: *We strive to protect the well-being of our residents, our employees, our businesses, the environment and our natural surroundings; with safe infrastructure and appropriate public safety support.*

NEIGHBORHOOD: *We value the beauty that trees, gardens and landscape bring to our Village; we aspire to be a caring, welcoming community that is friendly to residents and visitors and embraces the idea of "neighbors helping neighbors."*

SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)

Village Strengths:

- Small Village Board
- Simple structure (not complex)
- Efficiency with minimal staffing
- Constructive deliberation (not two-sided politics)
- Minimal services
- Low cost government
- Willingness to serve on board, committees
- Personal connection
- People know the government officials
- Fire department grants
- Desirable place to live

Village Weaknesses:

- Turnover
- Tough to balance needs/funds
- Limited by levy limits (low spending locked-in while costs keep rising)
- Officials don't have professional departments
- Lack of expertise
- Lack of flexibility (limited by size and budget constraints)
- Deferred maintenance may cost more
- Lack of partnerships with other local government units
- Limited services
- Limited maintenance

Village Opportunities:

- Potential to interact with other municipal partners
- How may we heal from what happened in 2020?
- Are there services we could utilize more (e.g. from County)?
- Consider recruiting a grant writer
- Desirable place to live
- Interview newcomers (why did you come?)
- Create a greener / sustainable community (group)
- Educated, talented people
- Establish a finance committee
- Villager betterment (aesthetics)
- Public is open to being informed about how much lower our taxes have been…
- Village is so small that it is feasible to go door-to-door
- Opportunity to be progressive. That's attractive.
- We still have the reasons people came here

Threats (or Challenges) facing the Village:

- Divisiveness (what happened in 2020)
- Competing interests for limited funds
- Village landlocked (limited options for tax base growth)
- Urban Subdivision w/o water, sewer - how do you make it better and make it work in an existing community?
- Concerns vary w/ different solutions (e.g. swales require land)
- Perception that taxes are bad (that lower taxes are good)
- State tax formula
- Streets and drainage is tricky - how do we improve w/o negatively impacting conditions?

- Hidden costs (e.g. streets and damage to vehicles)
- Flooding/property damage in homes

Strategic Issues and Priorities

Following a **Village-wide survey** and a **public input session** conducted in October 2021, the Strategic Planning Task Force used this public input to identify a list of strategic issues that seemed to resonate with most residents.

A few initial general observations made by the Task Force included:

- The input revealed a **shared vision** of what is important to Park Ridge residents.
- **Streets** stood out in the survey as an important area for improvement.
- Residents are **open to investing** additional resources to address needs.

Following are the strategic issues initially identified by the Task Force. These ideas informed subsequent identification of Goals, Objectives and Actions.

Strategic Issues

- **Need for <u>street improvements</u>.**
  - They are in bad shape. Our roads are bumpy and full of potholes.
  - Input gathered from survey respondents and open house attendees verifies that people want several things improved with streets. Improving streets in a strategic and coordinated manner, we could address all the areas for improvement that were most widely-regarded as important.

- **Important and timely <u>infrastructure investments must be coordinated</u> with street improvement.**
  - We need water mains and fire hydrants, and any infrastructure that belongs underneath the streets.
  - The Village could hire a consultant to help develop a 10-year plan to update roads and facilities.
  - The Village needs to get someone who can help identify what we need with our streets. This may be a professional engineer to explain options and a way to finance needed improvements.
  - We anticipate working step-by-step and gradually moving toward an improved system over time.
  - We need to coordinate and get the expertise we need to understand options and inform decisions.

- **The Village must address the <u>need for adequate funding</u> to support public investment in improved infrastructure and services.**
  - We need to recognize the need to invest in infrastructure and service.
  - We have to support government. We must explain why investments are needed. Park Ridge is home to some wealthy people paying relatively low taxes.

- Consider and articulate the costs of doing nothing, and opportunities for public investments to lower costs that would otherwise continue to be shouldered by households.
- Roads improvements, water mains and laterals are expensive.

- **Ensure <u>sustainability of Village government</u>.**
  - Sustainability of the local village government unit is essential in order for the Village to remain and function as an incorporated Village.
  - There has been high turnover in recent years (village board and village clerk position).
  - Meeting space is needed.
  - The 2022 budget will require the village to dip into reserves by about $16,000.

- **A robust plan for <u>fire protection</u> is needed.**
  - An actionable plan needs to be detailed for the Village.

- **Communication with village residents.**
  - Communication will be key to implementing the Strategic Plan.

Consensus priorities:

- ***Exploring and addressing potential improvements to streets, hydrants, and storm water.***
- ***Exploring options and seeking expert information for fire protection. The vehicles, equipment and space are inadequate.***

Other priorities that should be given further consideration as part of this Strategic Plan:

- Advancing drinking water supply
- Making Village government operations more sustainable
- Providing for adequate space for Village government
- Supporting and promoting a Village identity

Goals, Objectives, Actions

Goal Summary

The following have been identified as priority Goals for the Village of Park Ridge:

1. **Improve and maintain streets and complementary infrastructure over time.**
2. **Ensure and protect the Village's water supply.**
3. **Enhance capacity to fund village government functions, including capital improvements and routine maintenance.**
4. **Encourage community engagement.**
5. **Provide services that make Park Ridge safer.**
6. **Enhance the natural beauty and foster the green and peaceful park-like feel of the Village of Park Ridge.**
7. **Foster a thriving business community.**

Goal 1: Improve and maintain streets and complementary infrastructure over time.

- **Objectives:**
  a) Assess the condition of Village streets.
  b) Complete a study and/or conceptual plan detailing the prospects for functional fire hydrants, municipal water, storm water management, street lighting, telecommunications and improved streets - with a focus on infrastructure needs, opportunities and constraints.
  c) Communicate findings and plans with community members and stakeholders.
  d) Plan and schedule the development of infrastructure needed for improved fire protection (additional hydrants), access to municipal drinking water, storm water management, street lighting and wiring, telecommunications, and streets.
  e) Develop a 20-year financial strategy for infrastructure improvements and establish local support in light of the necessity and benefits of investment.
  f) Specify plans (including budget) for the first fully-coordinated street projects (by 2023, to break ground in 2024).
  g) Ensure that infrastructure is designed for resilience to climate changes in Central Wisconsin, for demographic changes, and for robust utility throughout a transition towards a low-carbon economy.
  h) Ensure that all elements of the built environment work together to provide for a sustainable and green place for living, working, and recreation, with a high quality of life.

- **Actions:**
  a) Obtain traffic volumes on each street to determine priorities
  b) Village board to seek expert information and procure relevant consulting services (planning, financial, engineering, public engagement) as needed to

explore options, design projects, develop a capital improvement plan (CIP), and affirm public support and funding needed to sustain a program of infrastructure improvement projects and routine maintenance.

c) Village to actively communicate aspirations with community members and stakeholders, seeking input and feedback when appropriate.
d) Village to adopt a Capital Improvement Planning process, as a policy, to pursue these goals.
e) Village board to consider - well in advance - the likely need for a referendum to adopt street improvement plan, and prepare as needed.
f) Present street improvement plan at a public hearing for citizen input.
g) Policy: Scope of street improvement plans shall include prospects for hydrants, municipal water, storm water, lighting and telecommunications, as well as the streets themselves, with regard to all users.
h) "Complete Streets" Policy. Street improvements will be planned and designed to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.
i) "Dig Once" Policy. Installation of conduit (for broadband connectivity) will accompany any street improvement projects as appropriate.
j) Consider how details about infrastructure will be recorded and which parties (such as Portage County) will be notified for future reference.
k) Policy: Seek information about potential funding sources for infrastructure projects including federal and state programs - both existing and emerging.
l) Policy: Communicate with neighboring jurisdictions about infrastructure needs and prospects for coordination of improvements across municipal lines.
m) Policy: Engage in regional discussions related to infrastructure, transportation and other issues of regional significance, funding sources, and project prioritization.
n) Policy: Projects will be managed in compliance with all applicable county, state, federal laws and protocols.

Goal 2: Ensure and protect the Village's water supply.

- **Objectives:**
  a) Expand access to municipal water by installing water mains in coordination with street improvements.
  b) Develop a 10-year plan that incorporates access to municipal water to enhance fire protection and for drinking water.

- **Actions:**
  a) Enlist experts from the City to recommend a strategy and timeline for installing city water mains for hydrants.
  b) Establish a policy to allow adjacent and nearby properties to be connected to municipal water as water mains are installed.

Goal 3: Enhance capacity to fund village government functions, including capital improvements and routine maintenance.

- **Objectives:**
  a) Make village government operations and revenues more sustainable.
  b) Develop a stable base of operational revenue for village government.
  c) Establish a funding policy for village operations and capital improvements.
  d) Establish and routinely update a long-range (~20-year) Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for prioritization of infrastructure and street improvement projects.
  e) Propose and prepare to pass referenda needed to secure adequate revenue for Village operations, and to fund capital improvement projects.
  f) Review ordinances and enact additional ordinances and revisions as needed.
  g) Provide for adequate enforcement of ordinances.
  h) Arrange and provide for timely inspection and assessment of existing infrastructure such as the sanitary sewer infrastructure.
- **Actions:**
  a) Village leaders to pursue training opportunities in municipal government budgeting practices and financial management strategies.
  b) Learn more about financial management practices of several other communities.
  c) Review past and current Village budgets; and evaluate current and future needs.
  d) Annually develop a proposed budget to present at a public hearing for citizen input (required by law).
  e) Communicate the need and value of enhancements to be considered through referendum.

Goal 4: Encourage community engagement.

- **Objectives:**
  a) Build a volunteer activity committee. Engage new volunteers in Strategic Plan implementation and other village functions as appropriate.
  b) Maintain and enhance traditional community events, and create new engagement opportunities.
  c) Establish a social media presence (or other outlets in addition to the traditional newsletter) to share community news.
  d) Facilitate and foster activities that enhance the culture of the community.
  e) Engage in community place-making activities.

- **Actions:**
  a) Continue traditions such as the pie social, and annual garage sale.
  b) Consider new ideas such as a tree planting event, a street party or block party.
  c) Consider events that utilize valued community assets such as the Green Circle Trail.

d) Consider an event that would draw people together, perhaps actively including people from neighboring Stevens Point.
e) Create a "flagship" activity, sprinkle activities throughout the year (such as one each quarter), and encourage or initiate additional activities that are quick and inexpensive.
f) Explore grant opportunities to support efforts, such as efforts to improve parks and open spaces.

Goal 5: Provide services that make Park Ridge safer.

- **Objectives:**
  a) Ensure appropriate fire protection, police protection, and ambulance services supported by adequate infrastructure, facilities and equipment.
  b) Increase the number of hydrants in the Village to provide adequate fire protection.
  c) Complete a study of a range of options for delivery of fire protection services and communicate with Village residents about options and key considerations. Analyze and compare their strengths and limitations.
  d) Establish and implement a long-term policy, budget and funding for fire protection services based on expert guidance and public input.
  e) Procure engineering services to detail a plan for infrastructure improvements and maintenance, pursuant to preferred option(s) for fire protection, improved streets, water supply, and other village goals. (This plan shall include a timeline for installing hydrants.)

- **Actions:**
  a) Seek public safety expertise as needed.
  b) Complete and implement a conceptual plan for provision of public safety services.
  c) Procure consulting services to determine options and costs, and to recommend which approach is best, and most cost-effective over time, including potential for coordinated infrastructure investments.
  d) Pursue high-quality, reliable, cost-effective solution(s) for fire protection based on adequate information about viable options.
  e) Present a fire protection plan at a public hearing for citizen input.

Goal 6: Enhance natural beauty and foster the green and peaceful park-like feel of the Village of Park Ridge.

- **Objectives:**
  a) Plant and preserve trees.
  b) Improve trail connectivity and encourage use.
  c) Explore possibilities with utility rights-of-way and public green spaces.

d) Engage in community place-making activities.

- **Actions:**
  a) Revisit and consider actionable components of the tree management plan prepared for the village by UWSP students in 2021.
  b) Consider partnering with Active Portage County to create an event like Walk Wisconsin.
  c) Add handrails or other suitable means to improve accessibility of the trail connection to the Green Circle Trail.
  d) Explore opportunities to enhance a few small public green spaces that exist within the village.
  e) Explore the use of Village alleyways to create: 1) walking paths for residents (e.g., the alleyway to Metro Market between Sunset and Pinecrest); and 2) basins for storm water management.

Goal 7: Foster a thriving business community

- **Objectives:**
  a) Promote potential improvements to the streetscape of the business corridor (highway 66).
  b) Adopt practices to promote the business corridor as a good location for existing businesses and help fill vacant commercial buildings.

Appendices

A. Public Input from Community Survey

Park Ridge Community Survey was open from September to October, 2021. Seventy-six (76) usable responses were submitted by residents of Park Ridge during that period. The results are summarized here.

Overview of Survey Results

Demographics of survey respondents and the population of Village at large.

Survey Respondents (n=76)	Village of Park Ridge (population = ~573) (Based on ACS 2019 5-year estimates)
57% female; 41% male	53% female
Respondents by age:	Village population by Age:
45% ages 65+	29% ages 65+
55% 18 to 64	48% ages 18 to 64
none under 18	23% under 18
96% own home	93% own home
33% have one or more child at home	~35% have one or more child at home
42% w/ household incomes of $100k or more	35% w/ household incomes of $100k or more
*All reside in Park Ridge - most (58%) for 10 years or more	

Most important reasons why respondents live in the Village of Park Ridge

Respondents were invited to indicate “the four most important reasons you and your family choose to live in the Village of Park Ridge.” Response options are listed here in order of the number of respondents (shown in parenthesis) identifying each among their top four reasons:

- Quality Neighborhood, 62
- Natural Beauty, 45
- Home Lot Size, 30
- Recreational Opportunities, 30
- Appearance of Homes, 28
- Quality Schools, 22
- Near Family and Friends, 17
- Cost of Home, 16
- Property Taxes, 15
- Near Job, 14
- Low Crime Rate, 12
- Historical Significance, 4

Other: (Please specify), 7

Services and facilities commonly rated as important areas for improvement

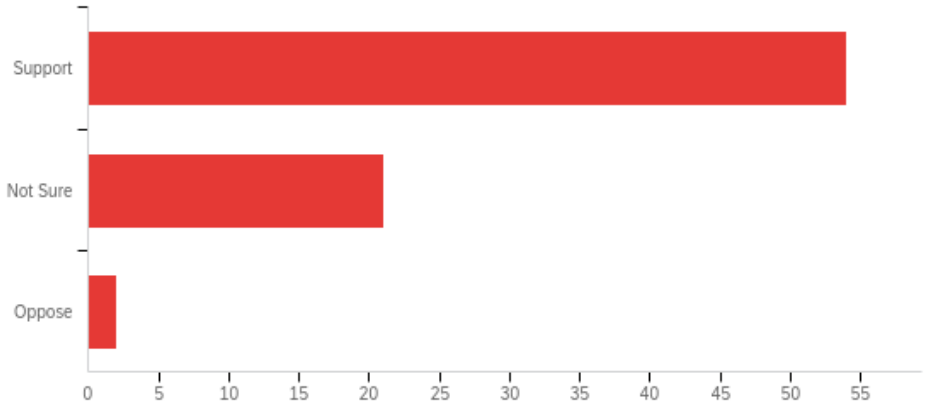
During the next 5 years, how important do you think it is for the Village of Park Ridge to improve the following community services and facilities? (5 = Extremely Important; 1 = Not Important)

Shown here are the five items (of 16) that were most-commonly rated as “5 Extremely Important”. Also, each of the following was identified as either “Extremely important” or “Important” by more than half of all respondents (n=76).

Services and facilities commonly rated as important areas for improvement	Number (%) of respondents identifying the need for improvements in this area as…	
	“Extremely Important”	“Important”
Streets	42 (55%)	22 (29%)
Safe Drinking Water	27 (36%)	19 (25%)
Snow Removal	21 (28%)	18 (24%)
Fire Protection	21 (29%)	15 (21%)
Stormwater Management	14 (19%)	26 (35%)

Support for an increase in taxes if necessary to fund important improvements

Summarized below are responses to the question: “Would you support or oppose an increase in taxes if it were necessary to fund any improvements that you rated as most important?”
A large majority (70%, 54 respondents) indicated that they would (“support”); not quite 3% (only 2 respondents) would oppose, and 27% (21 respondents) replied “not sure”.



Written Comments

The survey ended with a final open-ended prompt: "Please share any additional comments that may help inform the Village of Park Ridge's long range strategic planning effort."

All comments and topic fragments were sorted according to topic as follows. Written comments that addressed multiple topics were first parsed in order to be sorted according to topic.

Summary of written comments

This summary simply indicates the number of comments by topic, as follows.

Summary of written comments (number of comments by topic)	
Fire Protection	10
Streets	8
Drinking Water	5
Pests	3
Space	3
Amenities	2
Cooperation	2
Enforcement	2
Professional Services	2
Stormwater	2
Other	10

All written comments, sorted by topic

Fire Protection	
	[...] we should contract with the city for fire protection.
	Updating fire dept equipment is more important than a larger building to enhance fire protection in the village.
	The Village of Park Ridge is an urban area that should have urban fire protection. That begins with a good system of fire hydrants. Along with that, the Village must work toward contracting with the city of Stevens Point to provide the Village immediate access to the professional fire protection that all urban areas should have. The Village must work toward those goals.
	Provide adequate equipment for the fire department.
	It took 15 minutes for a volunteer to get to my house one block away and he showed up with a fire extinguisher. Another five minutes before a small truck showed up. My house could have been gone. No fire hydrants on this side of the Ridge.

	Important to develop fire protection by running water mains within the village. First divide the village into quarters & install water main with hydrants every block. Plan to continue this along other streets as year go by.
	I am in favor of exploring the services of Stevens Point Fire Department. It seems that having two departments almost equidistant from the village makes sense to contract with them. This would avoid the cost of new fire trucks and garage for them. [...] Yes I would support taxes for these 2 ideas.
	Get rid of the volunteer fire department and convert at least part of the garage into a public meeting space that residents can use. The fire department issue has divided residents and caused a huge rift between older residents that have a nostalgic feeling about it and the younger residents that have no personal connection to the volunteer fire department. It has gone one long enough. This is an essential service that residents in a community like this one should have no worry about their level of protection. As the prices of homes continue to rise no one wants to risk their investment in the unfortunate situation of a home fire.
	Both Ambulance and Law Enforcement services couldn't be any better when in need. With respect to the Fire Protection; Look at the size of our Village and the fact there is no room for future expansion. Contracting these services from the City makes the most logical and economical sense in the long run. Two former Villages, Whiting and Junction City discontinued having their own and contracted out for fire services. I think both would agree in doing so they eliminated many of the hardships/costs in having their own.
	Fire protection from the city
Streets	
	[Providing city water to residents] should be done as streets are rebuilt.
	Lesser improvements to street pavements (similar to north Linwood) should continue, to provide plowable streets that are well drained, smoother, and safer. Limited chip sealing should continue, to maintain the streets that still have old pavements.
	The Village needs to address the speeds of vehicles on Hillcrest to and from Iverson and Jefferson (Point) streets. The roads are crazy bad, all except the Linwood updated part.
	Road improvement is necessary,
	These roads are awful.
	I think there should be a stop sign at the corner of Linwood and Hillcrest. Also, shrubbery at intersections should be more closely monitored for traffic visibility.
	The roads need improvement at a faster pace of long range planning than 1/2 street per year. Yes I would support taxes for these 2 ideas.
	Address speeding and pass-through traffic, particularly on Hillcrest and Linwood.
Drinking Water	
	Would love to see us all on city water
	We probably should provide city water to all residents.
	If we contracted with the city we'd get more hydrants and others could have city water vs. well water

	if they wanted. Worth the extra cost for peace and mind.
	I am not in favor of city water.
	Review quality of wells
Pests	
	Something needs to be done to control the number of squirrels, rabbits, and chipmunks.
	Iverson Park is partner to Park Ridge but is treated like garbage. The amount of invasives that have "escaped" from the Village to the Park is horrible. Village should protect Park from invasives by not allowing Autumn Olive, Burning Bush, Asian Barbary, Buckthorn, Honeysuckle on Village land
	I've noticed there has been a significant increase in rabbits, chipmunks, squirrels, etc. in the neighborhood - something should be done to control this population.
Space	
	Perhaps a larger space for village meetings / presentations could provide an income stream if we could also rent it to residents for family gatherings etc.
	[...] convert at least part of the garage into a public meeting space that residents can use.
	I think the village hall could use updating, e.g., new bathroom at least!, but really a complete reimagine. If fire house issue was resolved, maybe that structure could be rebuilt completely for office and gathering space. Better voting venue and open space inside and out for meetings, events, and whatever.
Amenities	
	We have a lot of young families moving into the neighbors. Let's support that! If there's anything we can do to improve the playground equipment at Iverson, I would love to see that happen!
	Ice rink, boules lawn, benches,
Cooperation	
	Improving some of the above could include outsourcing/looking outside the village itself
	I am not sure how we can improve ambulance service, law enforcement, parks, public spaces for gathering and sidewalks due to the size of the village or the dependence of outsight sources for some of these services.
Enforcement	
	There is also a need for city and county law enforcement of speed limits in park, on village streets and on Route 66/Main Street.
	Notice and enforce codes: property lines, alley ways, growth on corners
Professional Services	

	[...] the village board should not hesitate to contract for expert services to help inform their decisions. Professional services such as engineering consultants for infrastructure, and public safety consultants to determine fire protection needs, will help the village board make decisions on things they may know little about. "You don't know what you don't know".
	No matter what, an INDEPENDENT study should be conducted to determine what is most beneficial in having our own FD given the size of our Village.
Stormwater	
	In addition, improvements to storm water management such as new pavements and swales must continue. Ultimately, as streets are improved, a system of underground storm drainage, as well as some form of storm water detention will be needed, at least on streets that are fully reconstructed with water mains and hydrants.
	but along with repaving the roads, water run off and speed bumps should be put into these improvements.
Other	
	[...] civility
	[...] Improve staffing conditions for Village government.(pay, hours, benefits, etc.) so we can recruit and retain good people.
	Annexation to Stevens Point
	Add back Christmas tree collection! (Idea-Could host epiphany tree bonfire on the gathering space.) could host a Create Portage County block party in the space next summer.
	[...Review quality of] sewer systems
	Winter walking conditions on our roads are very bad most winters. being able to walk safely from the end of homeowner driveway through the village on most days during the winter is a quality of life issue.in any residential area.
	We need to update so much of our infrastructure and it will cost more. Absolutely no way around it
	Sound mitigation for railroad noise?
	Encourage natural landscaping; discourage lawns and excessive use of water and pesticides.
	Welcome information for new owners. Build community. Method for mailbox replacement. Our row of five was knocked over by a “flipper” and we’ve just propped it up. Holiday lights- add to light posts?

B. Public Input from Open House (October 27th, 2021)

Input from participants in the participatory workshop on October 27th, 2021 is compiled here for reference. This was initially compiled by Nathan Sandwick and Lisa Henriksen, Cooperative Extension in Portage County. This includes input from in-person and remote participants.

Special Qualities of Park Ridge

All Written Responses to Question 1, Sorted by Theme

1. Name something special about Park Ridge that you personally appreciate.
Response
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty
The environment
Diversity of homes
Natural environment (trees, wildlife, Green Circle Trail, quiet, peaceful)
Trees, trees, trees! I love the tree lined streets and the variety of many mature trees.
Personally appreciate the neighborhood feel (small, cohesive, narrow streets) and the beauty (trees, landscaping, etc.). Few fences make yards blend.
The tree lined street, how nature is integrated in the community
Mature trees
Wood & yard sizes
Trees - Environment
Variety of home styles
Lots of trees
Trees
I like no sidewalks. Makes it more inviting.
No sidewalks in most of Park Ridge
No sidewalks
The abundance of nature
The trees and park like neighborhood
I love the nature smack dab right in the middle of a city. It's like we live in a park.
The nature in the city
Sense of Community & Community Identity
Personable & small
Quiet & neighborly

Neighborhood feel
Great community feel
Neighbors - closeness of neighbors
Neighborhood identity
Friendly village
Friendly neighbors who are willing to help. I try to do the same.
People of all ages
Quietness
Friendly neighbors
Neighborly - knowing many neighbors
Good neighbors
Neighbors in village
Friendly community
Sense of community.
Recreation & Walkability
Ability to walk in neighborhood - quiet, safe & beautiful
Checkerboard neighborhood - intimate, good access for walking - seeing neighbors.
Park Ridge's connection to Green Circle Trail
Proximity to Iverson and Green Circle
Walkability
Walkability
Walkability
Availability of Iverson Park
Low traffic - better/safer walking
Next to park
Ability to walk around for visiting
Can walk in the streets
Close to Iverson Park
Easy walking
Proximity to Iverson Park.
Location & Accessibility
Accessible to recreation, shopping & healthcare
Location
Other
The history section/information listed on the Park Ridge Website - a unique history. I'm glad it's captured.
Well Water

Low taxes

Summary of Special Qualities of Park Ridge

Themes	Count
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty	19
Sense of Community & Community Identity	16
Recreation & Walkability	15
Location & Accessibility	2
Drinking Water	1
Regard for Past and Future	1
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability	1

Descriptors and Future Vision Ideas for Park Ridge

All Written Response to Question 2, Sorted by Theme

2a. What are a few words you would use to describe Park Ridge...as you see it now (current)
...as you see it now
Small village
A neighborhood of people who all care for our community
A quiet family oriented neighborhood
Community in transition
Many Park Ridge Villagers are tops in their fields - engineers, doctors, judges, teachers, school board members
Special, historical, intimate
Unique, little town in a big community (best of both worlds)
Quaint, natural, peaceful, independent
Enclave within the larger city of Stevens Point - oasis
Friendly
Beautiful, safe, quiet, friendly
Small community - changing - new people & young children
Special small community.
Quiet/Peaceful - friendly people
Green, Stubborn, Flimsy
Progressive, proactive
Throw back in time.
Pride in yards
Friendly, beautiful, like that all the houses are not the same.
Beautiful trees
People care for "green" property
Unique variety of housing
Unique area within Stevens Point
Fire Protection
Improve infrastructure (streets, etc.)
Green, bumpy, older
Less bumpy
Well paved, fire hydrants
A bit conflicted
Willing to work through conflicts
Different "Camps" - Fragmented - sore feelings

Leaders not afraid to break away from Stevens Point
Need source of more tax
Changing as younger people move in. Want changes but keep lower taxes.
Lack of sidewalks & pleasant walking.

2b.) What are a few words you would use to describe Park Ridge...as you hope Park Ridge will be in the future? (VISION IDEAS)
...as you hope it will be in the future
Still natural. Still quaint.
Keep the trees. No changes.
Pleasant streets
large trees
More families with children
Continue as a Village but find sustainable solutions - streets, Village government, etc.
Hopefully it will continue to be vibrant and multi-generational. With continued and growing interactions within the Community.
Blended community - families young & old
Welcoming to all
Harmonious, respectful, civil. Official channels used - not groups with yard signs.
While still remaining neighborly, & caring
Interdependent
Comfortable living here
Continuing to be friendly in the future
friendly & well run
Self Sufficient, contained, greener
Proactive, Protected, Peaceful
More unified
Hope people can learn to get along
Improved streets
Improve infrastructure - meaning roads, water, bus service, etc.
New roads & streetlights
Green energy
Infrastructure improvements - i.e. fire hydrants
Better roads
In need of infrastructure update

Well paved
City water
Smart planning for a sustainable future to maintain & improve Village needs
Financially solvent.
Not sure of future.
Same
No changes.
More critters

Summary of Present Descriptors and Future Vision Ideas

...as you see it now (CURRENT)		...as you hope Park Ridge will be in the future? (VISION IDEAS)	
Themes	**Count**	**Themes**	**Count**
Sense of Community & Community Identity	17	Sense of Community & Community Identity	13
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty	6	Infrastructure & Services	9
Infrastructure & Services	5	Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty	4
Conflict & Negotiation	4	Conflict & Negotiation	2
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability	2	Village Future - Finances & Sustainability	2
Recreation & Walkability	1	Uncategorized	4

What the Village Does Well

All Written Responses to Question 3, Sorted by Theme

3. Regarding Village government, what are: 3-5 things the Village does well?
Response
Infrastructure & Services
Garbage collection
Well trained firefighters & chief (despite lack of equipment)
Fire Department
Streets cleaned

Enforces rules regarding clean up of dead trees & general maintenance
Sufficient snow removal
Maintain streets, water problems, etc.
Safety/fire control
Contracting out for garbage pickup, & snowplowing
No lines when voting in elections
Good garbage & snowplowing
Services (garbage pickup, brush pickup, etc.) are excellent
Handles voting procedures well
Arrangement with the City for leaf & grass collection
Maintain services garbage, snow plow, branches, big item pickup
Elections
Services - snow, pickup (leaf, trash)
Maintains current services (i.e. renews yearly snow plow contracts, yearly street sweeping)
Election day always smooth
We need help in many areas - snow removal, streets
Large item pickup
Garbage pickup
Power & utilities in alley ways
Snow removal
Maintenance and upkeep of yards
Good garbage & recycling
Snow removal
Garbage pickups
Garbage/recycling service, sense of community, low taxes.
Sense of Community & Community Identity
Neighbors helping neighbors
Friendly staff
Santa visits
A few traditions - Santa, rummage sales, some socials
Cares about neighbors
Community activities
Neighborliness
Encourages neighborhood connections
Friendly & welcoming
Gather as a community

Take care of one another neighbors
Santa
Creating welcoming atmosphere for neighbors
Community
Pie social
Transparency and Communication
Communicate with City
Information dissemination to residents
Keeping us informed
Keeps me informed of issues
Attempts to involve residents
Getting residents involved with Village issues
If you have questions you can usually get answers
Communications - newsletter, Facebook
Village government is responsive
Board responding to emails
Newsletter
Leadership
As of now, a planning meeting is taking steps to ensure a better government
Governance
Has a functioning village board that meets monthly/regularly
Dedicated village government, ernest folks
Small Government
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty
Keeps residences in good condition & appearance, such as junk, fencing, shrubbery, etc.
Nature
Allows for individual property landscaping - realizes its uniqueness.
Appreciation for natural beauty of area
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability
Keeps taxes low, but at the expense of the infrastructure - streets, fire protection
Pays our village bills

Summary of Opinions About What the Village Does Well

Themes	Count

Infrastructure & Services	29
Sense of Community & Community Identity	15
Transparency and Communication	11
Leadership	5
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty	4
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability	2

What the Village Could Do Better

All Written Responses to Question 4, Sorted by Theme

4. Regarding Village government, what are: 3-5 things the Village could do better?
Response
Infrastructure & Services
Clean the streets better in the winter
Fly flags again
I like the roads - cars don't go so fast
Improve fire equipment
Improve village hall (unsafe & inadequate)
Have a referendum if needed to improve roads
Communicate goals/needs to all residents
Fire service - mutual aid with city negotiations. They do a great job!
Improve roads
Add another fire hydrant near fire station.
Improve roads/street lights
Follow best practices in everything we do (i.e. water/fire hydrants, improve roads every 5-10 years instead of 80-90 years)
Curbing traffic through village (speeding) especially to park
Need to update village hall - modernize or replace
Keep up roads
Improve water access
Maintain fire department or dissolve FD
Better streets so school busses can be safer
Flags on the light poles

Resolve fire issue
Fall leaf pick up
Smoother streets
Street maintenance
Recycling more diverse plastics
Composting
New street lights
Streets need repaving
Snow removal
Traffic control speed & stopping at stop signs, etc.
Finish swales
Work on streets
Put in water hydrants
Roads
Repair streets
Better space for gathering (programs, neighborhood watch)
Groundwater update
Fix the roads
Snow removal and leaf pickups
proactive planning (roads, water, etc.)
Leaf pickups and proactive planning
Making sure contractors pull through on their obligations
Transparency and Communication
Communicating and enforcement of codes regarding trees & trimming at corner and alleys
Communicate beyond the newsletter
Communicate using the official Facebook page not the "Friends of PR"
Love the newsletter, but please email. Signed up for that and never received.
Doing what you are doing tonight - on a regular basis = good communication = good neighbors
Communicate village board meeting times & dates to encourage participation
Be more in touch with issues throughout the village
Communicate/solicit desired changes
Utilize many forms of communication (email, group phone tree)
listening to village resident concerns, less “arrogant” regarding “rights”
Sense of Community & Community Identity
Identity signage
Engage new residents

Identity as a village - a beautiful place to live
Community celebrations - Things that bring people together - decorating contests, picnics, etc.
Reach out/welcome new residents
Communications, “small community feel” (i.e. all village garage sale), promoting “green”
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability
Allocate resources in a manner that gets the greatest value
Plan short term (<5 years) long term (>5 years)
Use/create a financial planning committee - a committee to give financial suggestions/best practices to the village board/leadership
Taxes should be raised to cover new infrastructure
Focus on future planning, focus on sustainability
Informed Decision-Making
Make decisions in a concise manner and them plan and move forward
Need village board to be evidence driven in decision making
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty
Address sloppy properties
Enforce residents sloppiness w/ vehicles, yards, etc.
Other
No complaints

Summary of Opinions About What the Village Could Do Better

Themes	Count
Infrastructure & Services	41
Transparency and Communication	10
Sense of Community & Community Identity	6
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability	5
Informed Decision-Making	2
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty	2
Uncategorized	1

Issues the Village Should Address

All Written Responses to Question 5, Sorted by Theme

5. Regarding Village government, what are: 3-5 things the Village should address? (Critical Issues)
Response
Infrastructure & Services - General
Size of garbage cans for single residents
Self Reliant Utilities
Size of garbage/recycle cans - smaller is better
Infrastructure & Services - Drinking Water
Comprehensive review of well quality & sustainability
Water access
Water - to ensure health & availability
City water
1. Make city water available to all residents [along with street improvements]
Infrastructure & Services - Fire Protection
Fire department equipment
Fix hydrant
Fire hydrants
Fire service with city
Settle the fire department issue
Add another hydrant for access to water for fire protection
Be the bad guys & make a decision about the fire department
Water pipes (add) with water/fire hydrants
Follow best practices/audits for long term fire department needs (i.e. cost benefit analysis for sustaining fire department trucks vs contracting with Stevens Point vs expanding the village hall physically.)
Fire Department future
Fire hydrants - we need them - we need a bunch!
Fire protection
Fire hydrants
Fire Department
Water hydrants
Why would you buy two fire trucks of the same year, then you have to replace them both at the same time... Buy a newer and older one, then replace on a cadence
Fire Protection, whether our current system is adequate and sustainable.

The board voted two buy two fire trucks of the same year/model when building a new firehouse.
What is the plan for the fire department? What is the cost of a paid service vs our volunteer service.
4. Contract fire protection with the city
Infrastructure & Services - Streets
Fix roads
Streets & roads
Improve roads
Pay more for snow plowing & we may have some competition
Roads!
I think roads are okay
Road repair - haven't been done since WWII
Street lights
Roads
Street maintenance
Stop signs at Linwood & Hilcres
Shrubbery at corners
Street - repairing
Safer street speed limits & enforcing stop signs
Street repair plan
Corner sightlines
Roads
Street Lights
Blocked stop signs (tree & shrubs)
Streets
Swales
road repair, flooding
Road Quality, Traffic Control
Road quality
2. Rebuild/replace roads on a set and aggressive schedule [along with making city water available]
5. Speed bumps at strategic places in roads
Road quality
Infrastructure & Services - Village Hall
Improve village hall
Upgrade village hall & that area - new vision for community space
Planning for the future
Establish a long range plan or goals for the village

Plan the work then work the plan
Equitable way to address needs - roads, fire department space (Compromise - adequate room to encourage more to attend (rent a space out for more income?))
Participation
Encourage young people involvement (but that's difficult)
Keeping enough people interested - people to participate in leadership roles
Regard for COVID-19 Pandemic
Mask mandates
Covid-19 Immunizations
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability
Keep it a village
Budget funding for streets, sewers, etc.
Other
Low Cost of Living
Cats left loose at night
New Village clerk
Bus Route Connection
Identity of village
Prioritize these plans or goals & publish them
In-home cottage business
Take care of items in question #4

Summary of Opinions ABout Issues the Village Should Address

Themes	Count
Infrastructure & Services	3
Infrastructure & Services - Drinking Water	5
Infrastructure & Services - Fire Protection	20
Infrastructure & Services - Streets	27
Infrastructure & Services - Village Hall	2
Planning for the future	3
Participation	2
Regard for COVID-19 Pandemic	2
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability	2
Affordability and Value for Money	1

Animal Control	1
Leadership	1
Location & Accessibility	1
Sense of Community & Community Identity	1
Transparency and Communication	1
Uncategorized	2

Aspirations for Park Ridge

All Written Responses to Question 6, Sorted By Theme

6. Write down an aspiration you have for the Village of Park Ridge.

Response
Infrastructure & Services - General
Maintain/update infrastructure. Want community to prosper over the long run.
Infrastructure & Services - Drinking Water
Well testing
Access to clean, safe, city water, continue to head towards safe environmental practices
I support a park ridge water tower
Make city water available to all residents
Infrastructure & Services - Fire Protection
[Fire Protection]
Fire protection decision
Fire service
More fire hydrants
More fire hydrants
Add fire hydrants
Fire Protection
Infrastructure & Services - Streets
Road quality
New attractive street lights
Fix roads

Continue improving streets
Street Lights
Traffic Control
Continue adding swales
Gradually fix roads & speed bumps
R/W maintenance
Streets
Improve Road Quality, Improve Traffic Control to Reduce Dangerous Drivers
Rebuild/replace roads on a set and aggressive schedule
Speed bumps at strategic places in roads
Infrastructure & Services - Village Hall
Have larger space for gatherings
Village needs a social hub where neighbors connect (Al's Diner)
Community space
Sense of Community & Community Identity
Park Ridge needs an identity (Brand name)
Park Ridge needs to be the best spot to live in Portage County
Greater understanding of WHY we exist as a village
Understand identity of village. Neighbors knowing neighbors. Dissolve/integrate into Stevens Point.
Broader vision - green village/neighborhood
Angelo/Odessa - they socialize
Close down N. Linwood Ave for fun activities
Community events
Have the business district be a place that attracts more visitors
Neighborhood identity vs government identity
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability
Sustainable revenue - Commercial, new development?
Create Self Reliant Utilities
Self Reliant Utilities: water, power...future-proofing
Sustainability of village
Location & Accessibility
Allow/Plan for Bus Route Connections
Bus Route Connection
Have the business district be more “walker friendly.”
Affordability and Value for Money
Low Cost of Living,

Maintain Low Cost of Living
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty
Develop a tree plan - Care & planting
Yard & house upkeep (covenants)
Transparency and Communication
Continue phone communication
More Communication

Summary of Aspirations for Park Ridge

Themes	Count	Related Votes
Infrastructure & Services	1	0
Infrastructure & Services - Drinking Water	4	3
Infrastructure & Services - Fire Protection	7	14
Infrastructure & Services - Streets	13	12
Infrastructure & Services - Village Hall	3	6
Sense of Community & Community Identity	10	12
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability	4	4
Location & Accessibility	3	0
Affordability and Value for Money	2	0
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty	2	0
Transparency and Communication	2	0

Values and Guiding Principles Initially Proposed by Public

All Written Responses to Question 7, Sorted by Theme

7. What values may serve as guiding principles to achieve this?

Response
Sense of Community
Family oriented - welcome wagon, neighborhood watch
Community

being neighborly
Caring
Civic pride
community/Stability
Getting together
Sense of neighborhood
Welcoming
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty
Environmental consciousness
Environmental/Green
Natural beauty
Nature aesthetics
Making sustainable decisions
Transparency and Communication
Transparency
Good open communications
Transparent communications
Open communication and record retention
Regard for Past and Future
Impact on future generations
Honoring/Respecting the past as well as forward thinking/onward Park Ridge
Oral history/chronicling memories
Integrity
Tell the hard truth
Trust
Policies and decision made would always be based on good intent for residents, the business community and the greater Stevens Point community.
Learning
Education for money management
Education on policy matters
Respectful discourse…listening to understand, honest communication, etc.
Inclusivity
inclusiveness/respect among all residents
Democratic ideals - engage everyone
Affordability and Value for Money
Consideration to neighbors financial situations (note: taxes)

Tax haven - still a value?
Safety
Safety
A safe community
Cooperation
Ability to compromise - encourage volunteers
Volunteer spirit
Other Values
Educated/Evidence based decision making
Open mindedness
Are we truly independent?
Leadership in the broader community

Summary of Values and Guiding Principles Proposed by the Public

Themes	Count	Related Votes
Sense of Community	9	3
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty	5	9
Transparency and Communication	4	8
Integrity	3	5
Regard for Past and Future	3	6
Learning	3	4
Inclusivity	2	6
Safety	2	2
Affordability and Value for Money	2	3
Cooperation	2	0
Informed Decision-Making	1	3
Openness	1	1
Independence	1	0
Leadership	1	0

Desired Results

All Written Responses to Question 8, Sorted by Theme

8. What does success look like?(Desired Results)

Response
Infrastructure & Services - General
Community center in village
Improved services and infrastructure
Low crime rate - update neighborhood watch
New infrastructure & its sustainability
Infrastructure & Services - Fire Protection
Be protected & safe fire & police
Solid plan for fire protection
Adequate and timely fire protection
Infrastructure & Services - Streets
New roads and a road maintenance plan
Smooth roads
Improved roads
Infrastructure & Services - Drinking Water
city water provided to all who would like it
City water access instead of private wells, even paved roads, fire hydrants and a good fire safety plan
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability
Changing narrative about taxes and investment in community
People willing to invest resources because they believe in value
Community/thriving community however we are
Sustainability of fundraising/resources however we are
Staying within the budget
Working democratic process
Following best practice in finance community
Stable population
more attractive (to new business and residents/visitors) business district.
Sense of Community & Community Identity
Attractive/peaceful/friendly neighbors

Connecting activities to like minded neighbors
Unity within the village
Harmony
Success looks like an open-gated community named Village of Park Ridge, where a family can move into a culturally-centered greenspace powered by renewable energy and locally-sourced, clean water. Roads are slow driven due to the amount of smiling pedestrians they must wave to as they leave from our relevant businesses and head to our neighboring parks.
Community events - kickstarter by more residents
reimagining village square
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty
Well cared for properties
Preserving/supporting green
Better communication
Effective communication between neighbors
Informed Decision-Making, Leadership & Participation
Getting more people involved
Informed decisions
Local government balancing the wants/needs of its residents in a responsive, open, and transparent way.

Summary of Ideas of What Success Looks Like (Desired Results)

Themes	Count	Related Votes
Informed Decision-Making	1	0
Infrastructure & Services	4	5
Infrastructure & Services - Drinking Water	2	4
Village Future - Finances & Sustainability	9	12
Infrastructure & Services - Fire Protection	3	2
Infrastructure & Services - Streets	3	6
Leadership	1	0
Participation	1	1
Regard for Environment and Natural Beauty	2	3
Sense of Community & Community Identity	7	15
Transparency and Communication	2	2

C. Strategic Planning Process Timeline and Details

Key components addressed amid this strategic planning effort to date
(updated 1/26/2022)

Date / What	Planning Steps, Activites	Outcomes (Progress)
Jun. 29, 2021 Task Force	Process overview Discussion about participation	Clarity of purposes for public participation, and hopes for public input.
Jul. 14, 2021 Task Force	Stakeholder Analysis Purposes of Community Engagement Options	Recognition of key stakeholders and expectations. More ideas for public engagement.
Aug. 11, 2021 Task Force	Process Overview Strategic Issues	Perspectives. Preliminary identification of issues and their consequences.
Sep. 15, 2021 Task Force	Survey revisions, process check-in	Revised questionnaire. Newsletter update for residents.
[October]	Community Interest Survey Promote Public Participation Event	Public input about: reasons for choosing Park Ridge, the importance of various community services and facilities, willingness to support a tax increase if necessary, written suggestions
Oct. 13, 2021 Task Force	Prepare for a participatory workshop: ● Roles and responsibilities ● Review relevant background information ● Preliminary SWOT analysis for village government	Necessary preparations made.
Oct. 27, 2021 6 to 8 pm Open House	OPEN HOUSE Participatory Workshop Purposes: ● Informational presentation ● Brainstorming, preliminary rating of ideas), possibly around vision and/or values ● Social interaction ● Informal learning and conversation	We introduced participants to this effort. Participants helped us to identify: ◆ what they like about Park Ridge, ◆ words to describe Park Ridge today, and in an ideal future (vision ideas), ◆ what the village does well ◆ areas for improvement, ◆ critical issues to address, ◆ aspirations, ◆ values and

		◆ potential measures of success And we got an indication of popular ideas for aspirations, values and success.
Nov. 17, 2021 Task Force	● Discuss input (workshop, survey): vision, values, issues, priorities... ● Identification of Strategic Issues	Took stock of all that above and returned to the task of identifying strategic issues.
Dec. 8, 2021 Task Force	Selection of Strategic Priorities	Consensus around a small set of priorities. Newsletter update for residents.
December – February 2022	Strategy Formulation	
March 2022	Strategy Selection Implementation / clarify hopes for community change (desired results)	
April 2022	Propose revisions to chapters of the comprehensive plan. (Eventually submit this subset of recommendations to the comp plan committee. May want to coordinate on this piece before finalizing a draft strategic plan.)	
May-JUne 2022	Feedback / Review / Recommendation	