



**CITY OF PORTAGE
2011-2012 COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT and GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

Mission Statement of the Portage City Council

To function as the elected body serving the shareholders (all citizens) of the city:

- (1) to ensure the long-term financial health of the city;
- (2) to promote the highest level of quality of life in all aspects for all residents;
- (3) to provide positive leadership for the entire county-wide community in all areas of municipal governance; and
- (4) to encourage effective long-term planning in all considerations within Council purview.
- (5) to ensure transparency and access to information.

2011-2012 GOALS & OBJECTIVES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Goal: Promote quality of life in Portage.

Objectives:

- Continue prevention and enforcement efforts concerning substance abuse.
- Continue effective community safety programs through prevention, enforcement, and education.
- Ensure decent and safe housing and the livability of community neighborhoods.
- Maintain effective planning and development programs to promote orderly, attractive, and environmentally sound growth.
- Continue a commitment to human services to enhance the desirability of the community.
- Continue to encourage citizen involvement in crime prevention measures – business and residential.
- Maintain a coordinated and innovative approach toward developing park land and providing recreational opportunities.
- Continue planning and implementing programs and projects to enhance the City Centre area.
- Promote aesthetic and cultural enhancement.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Goal: Demonstrate a commitment to quality economic growth and development.

Objectives:

- Develop an improvement strategy to ensure the continued strength of the city.
- Promote business diversification.

TRANSPORTATION

Goal: Continue to plan and implement improvements to move people and commerce safely and effectively through the community.

Objectives:

- Implement projects proposed within the major thoroughfare plan.
- Continue to implement operational and functional improvements to improve traffic safety and movement.
- Evaluate and promote alternate modes of transportation.
- Continue appropriate improvement of the local street system.
- Continue to seek alternative approaches and methods to enhance preventive maintenance programs.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

Goal: Promote excellent customer relations.

Objectives:

- Continue emphasis on courteous public service.
- Continue efforts to enhance communication between local government, citizens, the business community and the local educational institutions on city projects and services.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Goal: Continue to improve the infrastructure to meet demonstrated needs.

Objectives:

- Continue to improve the wastewater and stormwater systems.
- Continue to improve the water system.
- Promote underground utilities within the city.
- Continue to expand, update and maintain equipment and facilities to provide for the effective operation of city departments.
- Maintain a systematic preventative maintenance program for city-owned buildings.

QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT

Goal: Enhance environmental quality and protect natural resources.

Objectives:

- Continue to promote effective recycling plans, the use of recycled/recyclable products, and the responsible disposal of hazardous and solid waste.
- Protect water quality through the continued implementation of water management principles, including surface water, groundwater, and stormwater programs.
- Promote environmental protection, planning, monitoring, and educational programs.

SERVICE DELIVERY

Goal: Continue to provide high quality, effective and cost efficient municipal services.

Objectives:

- Continue to evaluate alternatives to meet increased service demands.
- Promote teamwork and unity of purpose between the public and private sectors.
- Continue to increase efficiency by applying new technology.
- Continue to prioritize existing services--including the elimination of low-priority services.
- Monitor, evaluate, and communicate service delivery options.
- Continue to pursue mutually beneficial intergovernmental ventures.
- Expand employee training and wellness programs and opportunities to ensure a well trained, healthy and motivated work force.
- Improve the utility of citizen advisory boards.
- Evaluate and propose possible Charter and ordinance revisions.
- Continue to evaluate contracting or privatizing city services and programs.

FINANCE AND BUDGETING

Goal: Maintain the financial health of the city.

Objectives:

- Continue to pursue revenue enhancement through alternate funding opportunities.
- Assess financing methods for future capital improvement needs.
- Continue to evaluate expenditures to provide for the most effective and efficient use of city resources.
- Promote volunteerism to assist in providing important services.
- Promote safety and minimize risk exposure by continuing to identify and prevent accident/ liability exposure.
- Consider and implement alternative means of addressing city insurance needs to further enhance financial health of the city.