

Replace with
Cover



*Ara Pace Memorial, Orland Park. (Wehmeier, 2013)
Cover Photo: Village Hall, Orland Park. (Wehmeier, 2013)*

Board of Trustees

Daniel McLaughlin, Mayor & Village President
 Kathleen M. Fenton, Development Services Chair
 James Dodge, Trustee
 Patricia Gira, Trustee
 Brad O'Halloran, Trustee
 Carole Ruzich, Trustee
 Edward G. Schussler III, Trustee
 John C. Mehalek, Village Clerk

Plan Commission

Louis G. Stephens, Chairman
 Paul M. Aubin, Vice Chairman
 Steve Dzierwa, Commissioner
 Judith Jacobs, Commissioner
 Nick Parisi, Commissioner
 Laura Murphy, Commissioner
 John Paul, Commissioner

Village Staff

Paul Grimes, Village Manager
 Ellen Baer, Asst. Village Manager
 Karie Friling, Development Services Director
 Kimberly Flom, PLA, Asst. Dev. Services Director
 Jane Turley, AICP, PLA, Senior Planner
 Nectarios C. Pittos, AICP, Planner
 Melissa King, PLA, Planner
 Ed Lelo, Graduate Intern

Table of Contents

Letter from Mayor Daniel McLaughlin	3
A Glimpse Into the Future	4
Introduction & Vision.....	7
Community Profile.....	17
Land Use, Design & Character.....	35
Economic Development.....	119
Mobility & Access.....	151
Open Space, Parks & Recreation.....	179
Community & Culture.....	207
Sustainability & Stewardship.....	227
Next Steps.....	249
Appendix.....	251
Appendix A—Public Participation Process	
Appendix B—Placemaking	
Appendix C—Claritas PRIZM Market Segments	
Appendix D—Reference List	

Thank You to everyone who participated in the planning process for the Village of Orland Park's Comprehensive Plan. This plan was made possible by the contributions and insights of the residents, business persons, property owners, and representatives from various groups and organization.



Orland Park Public Library, Orland Park. (Webmeier, 2013)



Orland Park then, now and into the future

Orland Park has a strong history of planning. As far back as 1892, the founders of our great Village began planning for a vibrant and hopeful future for what has now grown to become home to over 57,000 residents. Orland Park continues to grow and prosper as a community.

Most recently, sound planning has resulted in a revamped and renewed Downtown Orland Park that is a unique blend of residential, retail and open space in a transit-oriented development. Thanks to the efforts put forth through planning, Orland Park has become one of the most desirable communities in the nation in which to live, work and play.

Orland Park has always strived to provide an outstanding quality of life for its citizens. Residents can enjoy a year-round recreation system with hiking and biking trails, kayaking and pedal boats lush forest preserves, a first-class aquatic center, ice arena, golf courses, playing fields, fitness centers and more. With something for everyone, Orland Park hopes to give its residents a sense of place and belonging.

Orland Park continues to remain a premiere destination in the southland, with thousands of visitors every year stopping by to enjoy the many amenities our Village has to offer.

Maintaining the quality of our Village and its public places is of the utmost importance. Assuring natural spaces through the Open Lands Fund ensures the quality of life in Orland Park by increasing the amount of open space for present and future generations.

Orland Park strives to maintain a green community, remain fiscally sound, promote the arts and history of the area while providing exceptional academic opportunities to both children and adults in the area.

As you look through this copy of the current Comprehensive Plan, think of it as a blueprint for the future of our community.

The Comprehensive Plan is the Village's long range policy guide for future growth and planning the community. The current plan presents the vision for what the community wants to become along with recommendations to achieve that vision. The plan will change over time in a flexible and adaptive manner.

Through this plan, we can build on and learn from our history to guide our Village to a bright future. From a small farm village, Orland Park has transformed into the exemplary community we see today.

Daniel J. McLaughlin

Daniel J. McLaughlin
Mayor, Village of Orland Park
August 5, 2013





It's July 2027....

Meet the Smiths, an Orland Park family getting ready for the weekend. It's Friday afternoon and Adam Smith left his office for a short commute from Orland Parkway to his home near Woodland and 145th. As he drove up LaGrange Road, he began to reminisce. Have they really been in Orland for ten years already?

He and his wife Karla, an Orland Park native, lived in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood as newlyweds and had no plans to move to the suburbs. However, with the birth of their daughter Andrea, the couple soon realized the need for the transition in their lives. The couple had a big decision ahead of them.

Karla lauded the amenities of Orland Park; great schools, affordable homes, stellar recreation programs for kids and even a walkable downtown. As they debated the pros and cons of different locations, Adam's employer, a technology company, announced they would be opening a satellite facility along Orland Parkway. That sealed the deal for their move to Orland Park. He still can't believe they were able to find a house they loved, in an incredible neighborhood and at an affordable price.

Adam arrived at home and pulled into the driveway just as Karla was walking toward their home from the train station. Her advertising job allowed her to work from home a few days a week, but when she commuted to her Chicago office, she didn't mind the walk to and from the 143rd Street train station.

The couple entered a house full of the chatter and laughter of three kids fully enjoying their summer vacation. Natalie, the couple's niece, gave a quick summary of the day's activities – Andrea, 14, spent most of the day at the Centennial Park Aquatic Center with friends. Nate, 12, scored a goal in soccer camp and Graham, 7, had a blast on the day camp field trip.

After saying their goodbyes, Natalie headed home to her apartment in the Main Street District of Downtown Orland Park. She and some of her neighbors planned to gather and enjoy a barbecue in the courtyard.

After breakfast on Saturday morning, the Smiths headed over to the new Regional Sports Park to take in Nate's baseball game. He'd been playing with Orland Youth Association for four years and had made many great friends through his involvement. The Regional Sports Park had quickly become one of the premiere regional destinations for games, tournaments and sports camps since its opening just two years prior. Adam wondered if Nate knew how lucky he was to be able to play in a top notch facility so close to home.

As Karla watched the game, she made a mental checklist of the day's 'to-do' items which included some final shopping for Sunday's family dinner. Getting the shopping errands done was a breeze thanks to the wide variety of stores in close proximity. Also on the list was to confirm reservations on the block of rooms at the hotel in Downtown Orland Park for the following weekend.



They had planned the Smith family reunion to coincide with Orland Park's second annual Railroad Days. Karla was glad she reserved the rooms early. The new downtown hotel was a popular destination for visitors and would be even more so with the festival. She knew her family would appreciate the convenience of riding the train into the city for sightseeing while also being able to shop and dine in Downtown Orland Park.

It was a warm, but enjoyable, early evening church service, and afterward they dropped Andrea off at her best friend Shanti's house to watch movies. Natalie came over to keep an eye on the boys so Karla and Adam could go out for the night. They had a hard time picking what restaurant to choose. The growing diversity of Orland Park had led to an array of delicious locally owned and national chain restaurants. In the end, they settled on their favorite Thai restaurant spurred by a craving for panang curry.

It was a perfect summer evening and after dinner they stopped by their favorite neighborhood gastropub to meet some friends and listen to the local band play on the outdoor patio. Their friends live in a neighboring town, but love to frequent Orland Park's downtown area for the nightlife, convenience, charm and ambiance. Although the venue was crowded, they found the perfect bistro table under the gorgeous brick and wood pergola that had been decorated with softly lit colored lanterns.

The sun sparkled on Sunday morning as the entire family set out for a bike ride through town. They started from home on the local streets and rode through the newly opened bike trail in the McGinnis Slough Forest Preserve area. The lily pads in the Slough were in full bloom, crickets chirped and a deer ventured into the clearing for some morning grazing. On the way back, the Smiths headed west over the LaGrange Road pedestrian bridge to Granite City to join Karla's mother and enjoy the fabulous Sunday brunch. She had just moved into her senior living apartment and couldn't stop gushing about her new place, not to mention the virtually maintenance free living compared to the home she'd raised Karla and her siblings in.

After a relaxing afternoon, the Smiths packed up the coolers, blankets and chairs and headed to Centennial West for the first summer concert of the season. They found the perfect spot atop one of the park's unique hills. They had great views of the band and were able to take in the expansive vistas of Lake Sedgewick. They noticed the Johnson family and waved them over to join them on the hill. They had just moved in across the street and while the Smiths had deep family roots in Orland Park, the Johnsons had just relocated from Ohio. Similar to Adam, Ben Johnson's company had a new office along Orland Parkway. They enjoyed meeting to work out during their lunch hours, made possible thanks to convenient employee showers and a great trail system throughout the corporate campus. The kids found their friends at the concert and discussed the latest in music, sports and games. Karla and Adam sunk into their chairs while listening to the music floating along the summer breeze. With fulfillment and content they thought, there's only one thing that could be better than this weekend...next weekend.

This is home. This is Orland Park.

*Defining "livability" is a challenge simply because people's values and priorities are so diverse. However, when residents across the region describe their values and priorities, certain commonalities of livability emerge. Livable communities are **healthy, safe, and walkable**. Livable communities offer transportation choices that provide timely **access** to schools, jobs, services, and basic needs. Livable communities are imbued with **strength and vitality**, features which emerge from preserving the unique characteristics that give our diverse communities "a sense of place".*

*The **building blocks** of local planning are comprehensive plans, consistent ordinances and other regulations and trained decision-makers. **Local comprehensive plans** are the vision of what a community wants to become and the steps needed to meet that goal.*

(CMAP, 2010a)

This page
intentionally
left blank