



A Vision for Our Community

Madison's Northside is a safe and dynamic community of diverse neighborhoods where caring neighbors live and work together. We draw on our collective assets and skills to help each other pursue dreams, achieve goals, and ensure a high quality of life for all.

Vision For Business and Economic Development

Northsiders and others shop and work at our attractive, locally owned-and-operated businesses. These thriving businesses reflect and enhance our community's identity and serve our diverse needs, and provide significant employment for Northside residents.

Vision For Heritage and Community Building

We celebrate and preserve our community's unique heritage, while embracing new traditions and cultures that enhance the quality of life for Northside residents.

Vision For Safety and Health

We look out for and respect each other on the Northside. We actively participate in maintaining safe and healthy lifestyles, neighborhoods and public spaces.

Vision For Natural Environment and Land Use

The Northside protects, enhances, and educates about the natural resources and beauty of our land, lakes, wetland, and wildlife, while supporting responsible recreational, residential, and institutional uses for the benefit of all.

Vision For Housing

Our community provides a wide variety of attractive, affordable, and well-maintained housing for both owners and renters.

Vision For Community Services and Facilities

Our community resources are accessible and successfully support the educational, recreational, cultural, spiritual, and physical needs and interests of all residents.

The Northside Community Vision is sponsored by the



**NORTHSIDE
NEWS**

***Proud Winners of the National
Neighborhood of the Year Award***

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GET INVOLVED IN MAKING THIS VISION A REALITY

BACKGROUND

More than 150 Northside residents and 50 Northside organizations worked for over a year in 1999-2000 to develop a shared vision for our Northside community, complete with goals that we collectively agreed to pursue. Interviews, surveys, community forums, task force meetings, demographic research, and consultation with key resource people have all combined to produce a comprehensive vision of the kind of community we want to live and work in. More than fifty Northside organizations have formally endorsed the Northside Community Vision plan.

The Northside Planning Council uses this community vision as a "blueprint" for its activities and priority-setting. The plan also serves as a benchmark for our community's ability to mobilize sufficient resources and participation to achieve important goals.

We welcome the involvement of as many organizations and individuals as possible as we work together to create a better Northside community for all.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO MOVE TO LIVE IN A BETTER NEIGHBORHOOD

Vision For Business and Economic Development

Northsiders and others shop and work at our attractive, locally owned-and-operated businesses. These thriving businesses reflect and enhance our community's identity and serve our diverse needs, and provide significant employment for Northside residents.

Achieve and maintain dynamic, attractive shopping areas while enhancing scattered site businesses.

- * Institute a Northside marketing plan
- * Beautify existing businesses

Increase the variety of businesses that together meet all the needs of the community, including retail, manufacturing/technology, health-care, finance, service industry.

- * Expand retail sector to include restaurants, coffee shops, movie theatre, and gift and craft shops.

Maintain and improve community relationships with current stores and major employers like Oscar Mayer, Airport, and Webcrafters

Increase diversity among business owners and workers

- * Expose students and trainees to existing businesses and knowledge of the skills needed to be employed in them.
- * Increase communication between customers and employees/employers including translators

Increase job availability at a wide range of income, benefit levels and allow for career growth.

- * Improve the quality of jobs
- * Encourage participation in current and future job-training opportunities

Improve modes of transportation to businesses and employers in and outside the area.

- * Improve biker and pedestrian safety in area shopping centers and main streets.

Vision For Heritage and Community Building

We celebrate and preserve our community's unique heritage, while embracing new traditions and cultures that enhance the quality of life for Northside residents.

Celebrate community and ethnic heritage

- * Develop Northside history and identity as "The Top of the City"
- * Major Northside Festival
- * Restore historic buildings and places, including Statue of Liberty in Warner Park
- * Groups/cultures and area history displays
- * Keep Fiesta Hispano on the Northside
- * Establish additional ethnic festivals
- * Keep R&B at Warner Park

* Keep summer concerts sponsored by NESCO

Build stronger sense of community and improve neighborliness

- * Increase number and activity level of neighborhoods and other associations so the Northside neighborhoods have an association.
- * Neighborhood/block parties and events
- * "Neighborliness" and neighbor to neighbor "buddy" programs
- * A coherent theme or "feel" throughout the community through art, plantings, etc.,
- * Continue to publish the Northside News
- * Encourage area wide participation in existing events at area churches

Vision For Safety & Health

We look out for and respect each other on the Northside. We actively participate in maintaining safe and healthy lifestyles, neighborhoods and public spaces.

Increase Universal Access to Health Care, including preventative, mental, physical, and dental health using traditional and alternative approaches

- * Increase healthcare options on Northside
- * Increase healthcare education opportunities
- * Increase prenatal care
- * Increase number and use of immunization clinics
- * Increase dental-care opportunities

Make Travel Safe for all drivers, cyclists, pedestrians, and bystanders

- * Increase Traffic calming strategies
- * Increase Paved bike and other pedestrian paths and walkways, including bike trail to Isthmus
- * Increase Pedestrian/bicycle safety programs

Enhance the safety of public spaces

- * Greater police presence in parks and schools
- * Expand conflict resolution programs to all schools.
- * Increase knowledge of how to keep yourself safe in dangerous situations
- * Encourage citizen participation in crime prevention efforts.
- * Provide safety tips in the Northside News and PTO newsletters

Build and maintain respectful relationships between police and community

- * Create a liaison program with community leaders
- * Educate public about police and citizen roles in reducing crime.

Enhance safety in our homes

- * Reduce domestic violence
- * Educate about disaster preparedness
- * Reduce accidents and injuries at home
- * Working smoke detector in every home
- * Educate about fire safety
- * Educate about firearm safety

Provide education and support to youth in preventing at risk behavior (such as alcohol, drugs, sex, gang involvement, etc.)

Vision For Natural Environment and Land Use

The Northside protects, enhances, and educates about the natural resources and beauty of our land, lakes, wetland, and wildlife, while supporting responsible recreational, residential, and institutional uses for the benefit of all.

Expand use of community and other public/private gardens for youth and other resident groups

- * Set up monitoring agency
- * Create Northside Garden Organization

Expand awareness of Northside environment, including nature hikes and other environmental education programs

- * Encourage planting of natives on the Yahara Watershed

Expand outdoor environmental and recreational activities.

Beautify and enhance sense of ownership of neighborhood parks and public spaces.

- * Regular cleanups of parks and community gardens
- * Encourage sense of environmental responsibility among property owners-natives

Fundraise for park amenities, trails, upkeep of plantings, etc.

Have input into North Bellline and other key land use planning decisions, and proposed large developments on Northside and surrounding municipalities.

- * Monitor changes in land use plans vis-à-vis city, county, state

Vision For Housing

Our community provides a wide variety of attractive, affordable, and well-maintained housing for both owners and renters.

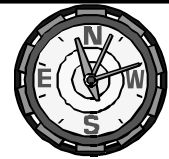
Achieve multiplicity of housing options (own and rent)

- * Ensure availability of affordable housing (own and rent).
- * Increase awareness about available loans and other home-ownership opportunities.
- * Promote homeownership by first time buyers.
- * Increase alternative ownership and rental options and alternative purchasing programs

Renovate and maintain existing homes, apartments, condos, and other dwellings

- * Improve infrastructure to support home maintenance and refurbishment/renovation: low cost loan/grant programs, volunteers, tool lending, classes, materials, etc.
- * Encourage landlords and management to maintain rental properties well and operate them in ways that enhances the quality of life for all residents.

NORTHSIDE



VISION & GOALS

*Increase tenant education and advocacy

Achieve multiplicity of housing options for "at risk" populations on the Northside.

- *Identify and work toward reducing segregation of housing by income and race
- *Ensure viable housing options for seniors and disabled

Vision For Community Services and Facilities

Our community resources are accessible and successfully support the educational, recreational, cultural, spiritual, and physical needs and interests of all residents.

Build outdoor community pool/aquatic center

Update and expand the Lakeview Library to meet growing and changing needs

Ensure youth/teen, family, and senior facilities and activities are accessible and welcoming to all.

Increase volunteer opportunities and participation in providing services and activities.

- *Develop volunteer matching service serving Northside residents and projects.
- *Expand upon existing food pantries on the Northside.

Improve networking and cooperation between religious and educational institutions, various facilities, organizations, and services

Expand life-long learning and skill developing opportunities for all residents

- * Increase education opportunities for all residents through the schools.
- * Increase percentage of adults with high school diploma or GED.
- * Increase proficiency in English
- *Increase career awareness and opportunities for students and adults

Expand upon existing affordable childcare opportunities on the Northside

Improve upon the quality of schools and education on the Northside.

- * Ensure that every student who enters high school leaves with a diploma or GED