



**City of Parchment, Michigan
Community Goals & Objectives
February 16, 2009**

LOCAL ECONOMY

Goal: Pursue high-quality business development and redevelopment focused upon job creation and reuse of vacant industrial property.

Objectives:

- Aggressively pursue redevelopment of the former Crown Vantage property.
- Work with area developers to create interest in locating businesses in Parchment and market the community for business location.
- Meet regularly with existing business owners to identify and address issues facing the local business community.
- Pursue the acquisition of property for the purposes of economic development.

RECREATION

Goal: Maximize use of community recreation facilities and amenities to offer a broad range of opportunities to maintain a healthy Parchment citizenry.

Objectives:

- Invest in the maintenance and improvement of Kindleberger Park including new facilities, directional signage, landscaping and enhanced traffic control.

- Develop a partnership with the Parchment Schools to expand youth activities.
- Build on the success of the Kindleberger Festival and Stage events and increase marketing activities as appropriate.
- Investigate opportunities to utilize the Kalamazoo River amenity.
- Continue to pursue the addition of trailway facilities throughout the community.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

Goal: Implement sound fiscal planning and management practices in support of a broad range municipal service responsibilities.

Objectives:

- Achieve the highest audit report
- Investigate modifications to existing tax abatement policies of the City.
- Take action to expand the local tax base.
- Plan for future capital expenses in a proactive manner.
- Strive to increase General Fund Fund Balance to 20 percent of revenues.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Goal: Develop Parchment as a preferred community for living, working and raising a family.

Objectives:

- Enforce city ordinances relative to blight and code compliance.
- Implement a Parchment beautification plan that may include establishing a “city center and creating a new City entrance statement.”
- Enhance existing maintenance practices to provide additional neighborhood cleanup programs.
- Enact legislation establishing minimum standards for the condition of rental housing properties.

- Implement a consistent program of community relations and communication with all Parchment citizens utilizing a variety of technologies and media.
- Continue to build relationships with the Parchment business community.
- Serve as a leader in promoting arts and culture opportunities.

TRANSPORTATION

Goal: Maintain the highest quality transportation infrastructure and services in support of Parchment's business, education and public safety needs.

Objectives:

- Perform quality and timely road maintenance where necessary.
- Implement and enforce all traffic safety measures according to accepted traffic engineering practices.
- Continue to pursue transportation improvements at the U.S. 131 business route interchange.

ENVIRONMENT

Goal: Pursue new and innovative programs to create Parchment as a healthy and "walkable community."

Objectives:

- Investigate opportunities to purchase alternative fuel vehicles whenever financially feasible.
- Develop a walkable community plan and long-term sidewalk replacement plan.
- Work to achieve mandated air and water quality standards.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Goal: Commit to making Parchment the safest community to live in Kalamazoo County.

Objectives:

- Ensure the appropriate level of police and fire protection is available to minimize impacts on personal safety or personal property.

- Investigate opportunities for cooperation with other area police and fire agencies including the creation of a fire authority, shared recruitment programs and more expansive mutual aid agreements.
- Work to improve training programs for Parchment police and fire personnel.
- Investigate policing practices that will improve the level of community relations.