

City of Charlevoix

2017-2018 City Council Goals

Ensure Charlevoix is environmentally sustainable while also economically viable

Charlevoix should be a leader in using renewable energy to meet the demands of our electric customers and to protect our natural resources. Our built infrastructure should incorporate design standards that protect our waterways, preserve our trees, and encourage healthy living. Recycling, energy optimization, and water conservation will be encouraged.

Action steps:

- Schedule a work session to learn about these topics (Michigan Environmental Council, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, and others)
- Set an attainable and economically viable goal of powering all City-owned facilities with renewable energy
- Develop a program for electric customers to cooperate and invest in solar and wind generation projects
- Consider ordinance changes in support of the Lake Charlevoix Watershed Plan and improve storm water effluent
- Improve the availability of recycling receptacles throughout the community- especially downtown
- Plan for non-motorized trails, bike parking, and pedestrian-friendly design in infrastructure projects where appropriate

Include the senior citizen community in all public events and activities

We have a growing senior citizen population and it is important for all members of the community to enjoy the quality of life we offer. Public facilities, especially parks, should have activities available for all ages and ability levels.

Action steps:

- Work with the Charlevoix County Transit Authority to provide shuttles during special events to provide remote parking and ease of transit
- Consider a survey to see what additional activities are desired- especially for senior citizens
- Develop a policy requiring all festivals and special events who use public spaces to provide a statement of inclusion for senior citizens
- Consider adding activities in East Park and Bridge Park like shuffle board and concrete checker and chess boards

Develop and maintain long-term infrastructure plans

As a progressive, year-round community, Charlevoix's infrastructure must be reliable in all weather conditions and should deliver the services required by our population.

Action steps:

- Develop and continually maintain a long-range plan of street and utility upgrades that can be used for planning and capital budget development
- Develop a plan for implementing city-wide Wi-Fi and other technological benefits for our permanent residents, visitors, and seasonal residents
- Obtain more information about and explore professional consultation for adding heated sidewalks in the downtown
- Improve the snow and ice clearing from sidewalks throughout the community by working with property owners

Provide strong stewardship of public resources and promote good governance

We will seek collaboration with other entities around the area and look for ways to efficiently provide the quality services the community expects. Charlevoix government should be organized around gathering public input and effectively giving staff and Council good recommendations for public policy.

Action steps:

- Assess our committees, boards, and commissions to determine continued need and whether restructuring is appropriate
- Consider amending the Shade Tree Ordinance to expand the mission of the Shade Tree Commission to protect the long-term condition of our parks
- Draft a charter amendment to increase the protections for all of our parks, while ensuring local enjoyment of these resources in perpetuity
- Provide appropriate fire protection for the community that recognizes pro-active fire prevention measures and collaboration with neighboring municipalities
- Improve the City's website and include more information for those seeking to live, visit, and build a business in Charlevoix; include ways for residents to keep in contact with the City through electronic methods

Enhance and showcase the outstanding quality of life in Charlevoix

Charlevoix is well known as one of the premiere resort communities on the Great Lakes, but of equal importance is that it is home to our residents. We cannot lose sight of our community being "home." One of our strongest attributes is the many activities and amenities offered; we should support these and build upon them.

Action steps:

- Recognize the role of our cultural corridor institutions (Charlevoix Public Library, Circle of Arts, and Historical Society) and build on their programming
- Encourage more outdoor dining and placemaking settings that showcase the unique geography, architecture, and programming of Charlevoix
- Collaborate with Charlevoix Township on the development of a dog park and a dog beach to help residents enjoy public spaces with their four-legged friends
- Enhance existing recreation options by opening the pier for jumping at Ferry Beach and considering tubing at Mt. McSauba