

# Eaton Rapids Area Accomplishments from the 1996 Plan

The following list contains the strategies that were accomplished by at least one of the jurisdictions to meet many of the goals presented in the 1996 Area Plan

## Natural Resources

### **Goal 1 Using MIRIS maps and other sources of data, inventory sites within the area that are considered environmentally sensitive or have unique natural resource features**

- ✓ Contacted the Michigan DEQ and Eaton County to collect appropriate information.
- ✓ Invited experts on preservation issues to meet with the committee to discuss existing conditions and concerns and provide guidance for actions that may be taken.

### **Goal 3 Establish a greenbelt and wide zoning setbacks along the Grand River**

- ✓ Reviewed the existing zoning ordinance applicable to the townships and the City's zoning ordinance to determine the impacts of those ordinances upon the river and adjoining lands.
- ✓ Acquired information pertaining to the protection of rivers and watersheds.

### **Goal 4 Promote programs for minimizing pollution runoff into the Grand River, Spring Brook and other tributaries and water bodies**

- ✓ Utilized the inventories to identify the type and extent of runoff into the Grand River and its tributaries.

### **Goal 5 Discourage residents from illegal dumping of trash and strictly enforce littering ordinances**

- ✓ Identified locations in the Area where dumping of trash is most predominant.
- ✓ Reviewed current ordinances pertaining to littering.
- ✓ Inquired as to contracting with the County for a part time staff person to enforce the combined ordinance.

### **Goal 6 Study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a conservation (nature) trail along Spring Brook**

- ✓ Contacted the Eaton Rapids School District to determine the District's interest in a joint effort to establish a trail.
- ✓ Developed a conceptual trail plan and associated costs and incorporate the proposed plan into the Recreation Plans for Eaton Rapids and Hamlin Township.

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- ✓ Applied for a grant from the Michigan DEQ to construct the trail.

## Public Facilities/Utilities

### Goal 4 **Work with the School District to identify the potential impacts of Charter Schools on the District and develop a program to ensure a coordinated educational delivery system**

- ✓ Identified and implemented a program that will promote cooperation between Charter Schools and the School District to facilitate efficient delivery of services

### Goal 5 **Encourage the establishment of a cooperative program between local businesses and schools to provide educational programs oriented to the needs of business**

- ✓ Promoted the establishment of an organization such as Junior Achievement and encouraged the involvement of local business people.

### Goal 6 **Continue to work with the Eaton Rapids Community Hospital to ensure ongoing quality health care.**

- ✓ Formed a health care committee to work with the hospital to increase the health delivery capabilities of the hospital and local medical centers.

### Goal 8 **The Townships will cooperatively develop recreation plans that will identify recreation needs and specific sites in each Township for a park/recreation area**

- ✓ Established a recreation committee in each Township to develop individual recreation plans.
- ✓ Periodically held a coordinating meeting among the Townships and City to ensure that facilities and programs proposed are compatible and within the framework of the 1996 Plan.
- ✓ Oriented the recreation plans around the concept of coordinated Areawide recreation improvements so that all grant applications from one jurisdiction will reference facilities, plans and programs in the other jurisdictions.

### Goal 9 **Establish an integrated/coordinated Areawide recreation program among the three jurisdictions and the School District**

- ✓ Held an organizational meeting to discuss the feasibility of an Areawide program.
- ✓ Studied the possibilities of a single financing program for Areawide facilities and programs, combining the resources of each jurisdiction.

### Goal 11 **Define sewer and/or water utility development areas, based upon proposed future land use distribution patterns**

- ✓ Formed a joint utility study committee to determine the locations most likely to require public sewer and/or water facilities (e.g. both sides of M-99 designated for commercial development north of the City).

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- ✓ Identified the likely types of utilities needed and the probable length and extent of those utilities.
- ✓ Determined the options available for providing the necessary utility improvements (individual or community septic systems or water wells, extension/ expansion of existing Eaton Rapids utilities, construction of new Township facilities, and other options that may become available).
- ✓ Analyzed and evaluated the identified options for cost-effectiveness and ability to serve future land use development requirements in accordance with the 1996 Plan.
- ✓ Recommended the preferred option.

**Goal 12 Identify and evaluate organizational options for providing water and/or sewer facilities that maximize cost-effectiveness for all three jurisdictions, including the establishment of an Areawide Water and Sewer Authority**

- ✓ Initiated discussions regarding the organizational structure under which utility expansion is to occur.
- ✓ Held meetings among the three jurisdictions to determine the potential for establishing P.A. 425 (Tax Base Sharing) or some similar agreements that will allow all three jurisdictions to benefit.

**Goal 14 Define an Urban Growth Boundary or Urban Service Area, based upon projected population growth and future land use, around the City**

- ✓ Established a coordinating committee to identify the areas adjacent to Eaton Rapids that are most likely to undergo relatively intense development over a five year increment, based upon the proposed land use distribution pattern in this Plan.
- ✓ Established a system for "bench marking" the conditions under which new utilities should be located within a Utility Service Area (this may include defining and establishing Level of Service standards for each utility).

## Future Land Use Distribution

**Goal 4 Identify areas along M-99 adjacent to the City to be set aside for commercial and industrial development**

- ✓ Defined limited areas along both sides of M-99 immediately adjacent to the City for commercial development.

**Goal 7 Designate public recreation areas within the Townships and develop linkages among Township and City recreation sites**

- ✓ Surveyed Township residents to determine the types of preferred recreation facilities that should be located in each Township.

## **Goal 8 Concentrate multiple-family and senior housing within the City**

- ✓ Continued to include multiple-family zoning within the City's zoning ordinance.
- ✓ Encouraged qualified developers to construct multiple-family complexes for low income, market rate and upscale households (this includes condominium development).

## **Goal 9 Establish several residential zones with lots of varying sizes to accommodate a variety of single-family housing types at a full range of prices**

- ✓ Established subdivision control ordinances within each jurisdiction.

## **Economic Development**

### **Goal 3 Promote the redevelopment/revitalization of the downtown business district**

- ✓ Discussed the need and feasibility of updating the City's downtown plan.
- ✓ Budgeted for developing the plan and identify funding sources.
- ✓ Contracted with a consultant to develop the plan
- ✓ Followed the recommendations in the downtown plan and establish the organizational structure necessary to implement the plan.

## **Intergovernmental Cooperation**

### **Goal 1 Using this Areawide Plan effort as a base, pursue the possibilities of establishing a formal structure for carrying on intergovernmental cooperation**

- ✓ Initiated a meeting of representatives of all three jurisdictions to discuss the establishment of a coordinating body to implement the 1996 Plan using the Areawide Planning Committee as a base.