

Agenda Item #

32

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COUNTY BOARD, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

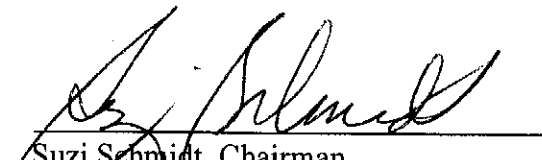
REGULAR SEPTEMBER, A.D., 2005 SESSION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, A.D., 2005

MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD:

As Chairman of the County Board, I present herewith a Resolution adopting the 2005 Strategic Plan for Lake County and authorizing the County Administrator to oversee its implementation; and recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Suzi Schmidt, Chairman  
Lake County Board

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Board conducted a strategic planning retreat in March 2005 to develop Strategic Goals to guide future action; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Board conducted follow up discussions to refine and finalize the proposed Goals in June 2005 and August 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Board has identified Goals pertaining to criminal justice; health and human services; infrastructure, environment and development; legislation and intergovernmental relations; and organizational functions; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Board now wishes to formally adopt the attached 2005 Strategic Plan for Lake County.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by this County Board of Lake County, Illinois that the 2005 Strategic Plan for Lake County is hereby adopted; and

**BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED** that the County Administrator is hereby directed to oversee the implementation of the 2005 Strategic Plan.

**DATED**, at Waukegan, Lake County, Illinois, on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September A.D., 2005.

**Strategic Plan  
Lake County, Illinois  
2005-2006**

*(Items are not prioritized.)*

***Criminal Justice Issues***

1. Provide services and sentencing options to better meet the needs of the mentally ill.
  - Develop a long term plan to manage how mentally ill people interact with the judicial system—provide services that focus on prevention and integration
  - Implement plans for the drug and mental health courts with appropriate staff to provide better services and alleviate the burden on the criminal justice system
2. Complete construction of the work release center and jail expansion to increase work release as a sentencing option and provide adequate jail capacity.
3. Increase the accuracy and accessibility of criminal justice information by expanding the Integrated Justice System by exchanging data with municipalities where feasible.
4. Expand programs in the jail and within the community to reduce incarceration and recidivism rates.
5. Develop programs in the State's Attorneys office to specifically address elder abuse and physical abuse by caretakers while expanding current programs on domestic violence and cyber crime.
6. Provide for homeland security by participating in training exercises and by allocating adequate resources for emergency response.

***Health and Human Services Issues***

7. Develop alternatives to address the long-term services and funding needs of Winchester House.
  - Evaluate mission, existing programs and new services
  - Make policy determinations of County's ongoing provision of service
  - Develop a long term financial plan
8. Support primary health care in all its forms to eliminate health disparities in the county.
  - Emphasize need for new programs for uninsured and underinsured
  - Develop strategy to overcome lack of funds/staff for new programs
  - Explore partnerships to improve coordination and communication
  - Promote preventive health initiatives county wide
  - Expand existing health clinics and the services they provide
  - Examine the need for more programming to address mental health needs

9. Provide mechanisms for human services coordination and resource referrals.

### ***Infrastructure, Environmental and Development Issues***

10. Address traffic congestion in a comprehensive manner.
  - Develop an “integrated planning approach” to county-wide transportation needs
  - Actively participate in the evolution of mass/suburban transit system- influence & promote mass transit alternatives, lobby to protect PACE/Metra funding
  - Identify and complete road improvements throughout the county, especially north/south routes.
  - Initiate and take lead on convening more intergovernmental discussion on transportation issues in the county
11. Promote economic development within the County to diversify the tax base.
  - Evaluate and update the overall economic development plan for the county in conjunction with Lake County Partners to increase economic development activities and diversify the tax base.
  - Examine permit processes to provide timely responses to commercial development opportunities and develop a one-stop permitting service to help accommodate development oversight and services
  - Continue to develop targeted commercial and industrial areas to be “shovel ready”
12. Study and identify long- and short-term water resources for the county.
  - Examine water availability
  - Examine opportunities to expand Lake Michigan water usage
  - Become a leader in conservation education
  - Explore the establishment of a “Regional Water System” for the central and western part of the county to address ground water issues
13. Streamline the code enforcement process to quickly resolve code violations.
14. Continue the County's Affordable Housing Program to provide funding for creative affordable housing opportunities appropriate to the diverse communities in Lake County.
15. Execute & implement long-term watershed plans.

### ***Legislative and Intergovernmental Issues***

16. Develop a progressive/active Legislative Advocacy Program that continues Lake County's leading policy role.
17. Evaluate current property tax assessment policies and procedures to enhance accountability and transparency.

18. Develop a comprehensive energy strategy.
  - Initiate an “energy collaborative or consortium” with municipalities and townships to negotiate gas and electric rates to benefit consumers and local governments
  - Develop energy conservation policies and practices for the county government as an organization
19. Continue to promote partnerships with local governments by identifying key issues and organizing policy discussions.

### ***Organizational Issues***

20. Examine and formally define the County's core responsibilities.
  - Realize that we can't do it all with existing tax dollars
  - Make informed decisions and understand consequences in terms of cost and benefits
  - Increase our understanding of the statutory responsibilities of county government
21. Develop a sustainable long-term budget to support facilities and services, using a formal financial forecasting model.
22. Plan for the time when there is very little unincorporated land in the county.
  - Develop transition plans for county service demands and size of departments
  - Undertake service & staffing forecasting
23. Expand e-government to improve customer service and increase staff efficiency.
24. Evaluate budget policies regularly to maintain the County's current fiscal strength.
  - Review programs through the budget process to balance revenue and expenditures in light of changing conditions