

Village of Homer Glen Green Visioning

Section 5.8

Report of Findings to Village Officials – April 6, 2004

The Green Vision was presented to the Village officials along with a stakeholder's concept plan for innovative stormwater management. The concept demonstrated how the objectives of the Green Vision could be successfully implemented.

Project Summary Presentation

The following is a Presentation composed of 29 slides, which summarizes the entire Green Grant program, starting with a description of the process and concluding with implementation of the plan. The presentation covers all of the visioning sessions, the Conservation Design Workshop, and the Conservation Design Field Tour.

Homer Glen Green Vision Plan

Green Communities Program Grant
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Technical Assistance provided by the
 **northeastern illinois planning commission**

Process

A broad base of community members are the stakeholders who believe their quality of life depends directly on integrating development sensitively with the natural environment of Homer Glen



Green Vision Plan

Process

- Steering Committee: volunteer residents
- Green Vision Plan created by residents
- Three public meetings held from January to July of 2003



Green Vision Plan

Forming the Steering Committee

- Residents wrote and submitted the Green Communities Program Grant proposal to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)
- IEPA awarded the Village of Homer Glen a grant
- The Steering Committee was created
- The Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission's technical assistance and project management services were secured
- The Homer Glen Green Vision Project began!



Green Vision Plan

Role of the Steering Committee

- Create the project plan and timeline
- Schedule public input meetings
- Propose goals, objectives and recommendations
- Communicate project progress to residents
- Publish and distribute the proposed Green Vision Plan Summary
- Host public celebration of Green Vision Plan



Green Vision Plan

NIPC's Facilitator Role

- Guide Steering Committee
- Provide technical assistance
- Facilitate three public meetings held from January to July of 2003
- Organize field trips to Green Vision developments
- Create and publish the comprehensive Green Vision Plan report
- Present the Village's Green Vision Plan at the May celebration



Green Vision Plan

Homer Glen Green Vision Statement

An attractive, distinctive, and environmentally sustainable community that protects its valuable water resources, natural landscapes, wildlife habitats, open spaces, and agricultural settings essential to the well-being and quality of life of Homer Glen residents.



Green Vision Plan

What is a Green Vision?

A green vision:

- represents a community's shared values and inspires the imagination
- promotes conservation of a community's natural resources by providing a well-planned strategy



Green Vision Plan

The Green Vision Plan includes:

- a green vision statement
- goals and objectives
- maps of critical natural areas as identified by the community
- development prototypes for town center and conservation designed neighborhoods
- recommended actions to achieve the goals
- benchmarks



Green Vision Plan

First Workshop - February 24, 2003

Identifying the Issues

- Loss of wildlife, mature trees, habitat, open space
- Trails connecting spaces, schools, wetlands
- Preservation of all wetlands, loss of wetlands
- Loss of rural character
- Maintaining aquifer for diminishing supply
- Flooding/Stormwater management
- Development in the remaining wooded areas (mature)
- Lack of alternate transportation modes: sidewalks and pathways
- Housing density



Green Vision Plan

Second Workshop - April 26, 2003



Development of Goals and Objectives

Reaching consensus at each table using keypad polling



Green Vision Plan

Second Workshop - April 26, 2003

Goals grouped into six categories

- Community Image and Character
- Natural Resources, Habitat and Wildlife
- Open Space
- Parks and Recreation
- Transportation
- Water Resources



Green Vision Plan

Community Image and Character

Maintenance and enhancement of an attractive and distinctive community that builds upon and preserves Homer Glen's countryside character, unique natural resources and abundance of open space



Green Vision Plan

Natural Resources, Habitat and Wildlife

Preservation, protection and enhancement of the existing and potential natural resources and wildlife habitat that are enjoyed by village residents



Green Vision Plan

Open Space

Protection and enhancement of the extensive open space areas that are essential to the overall image and character of Homer Glen



Green Vision Plan

Parks and Recreation

A parks and recreation system that promotes healthy lifestyles by offering active and passive recreational opportunities for residents, employees, and visitors, and enhances the overall image and character of the community



Green Vision Plan

Transportation

A coordinated, sustainable system of roadways, pedestrian facilities, recreational pathways and public transportation services that provides for the safe and efficient movement of vehicles and pedestrians and enhances the countryside character and environmental amenities of the Village



Green Vision Plan

Water Resources

Plentiful, high quality surface and groundwater resources that protect the quality of life for residents and all ecosystems, especially wetlands, by reducing the impacts on these systems



Green Vision Plan

Third Workshop July 14, 2003



Homer Glen Green Vision: Habitat and Water Features Map



Village of HOMER GLEN

Green Vision Plan

Third Workshop July 14, 2003



Homer Glen Green Vision: Open Spaces Map



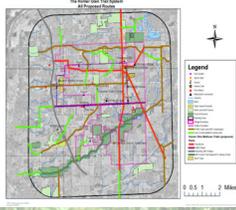
Village of HOMER GLEN

Green Vision Plan

Third Workshop July 14, 2003



Homer Glen Green Vision: Proposed Transportation Routes Map



Village of HOMER GLEN

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Third Workshop July 14, 2003

- **Table 1:** Habitat and Water Features



- **Table 2:** Community Image and Open Space



Village of HOMER GLEN

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Third Workshop July 14, 2003

- **Table 3:** Green Circulation, Transportation, Trails and Recreation



- **Table 4:** Conservation Design Neighborhood




Village of HOMER GLEN

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Third Workshop July 14, 2003

- **Table 5:** Town Center Concept
 - A starting point for future discussions
 - One idea, more needed



Village of HOMER GLEN

Green Vision Plan

Conservation Design Workshop September 2, 2003

Presentations

- The Green Communities Grant process by Dennis Dreher, NIPC
- Water Quality and Stormwater Regulatory Requirements by Bill Ward, Principal, The Cadmus Group, Inc.
- Conservation Design and Sustainable Development by David Yocca, Director of Landscape Architecture and Planning, Conservation Design Forum



Green Vision Plan

Conservation Design Bus Tour November 8, 2003

- Tanglewood Hills - Batavia
- A private, naturally landscaped residence in Batavia
- Mill Creek-Kane Co.
- Tellabs-Naperville and Bolingbrook
- DuPage County Forest Preserve District Headquarters



Green Vision Plan

Lessons Learned: *What worked well*

- Stakeholder recruitment campaign
- Media packets
- Computer polling (during workshops)
- Individual table facilitators
- Availability of maps and resources
- Conservation design visual aids
- Convenient meeting locations
- Food and giveaway items



Green Vision Plan

Lessons Learned:

What would have worked better

- Additional sub-committees to spread the workload and to involve more residents
- Public Relations sub-committee to handle communications
- Facilities sub-committee to plan meeting locations, food and table gifts
- Personal communications – more phone calls/emails to residents; these techniques were successful in attracting participants to workshops



Green Vision Plan

Next Steps

- Create Implementation Plans
- Establish Oversight Responsibility – transfer to Environment Committee
- Develop Education and Awareness Program
 - *Residents*
 - *Developers*
 - *Businesses*
 - *Teachers/Students (special projects)*
 - *Elected Officials*
- Vision Promotion & Sharing
- Nature Knows No Boundaries
- Develop ideas for sharing Visioning Process, Ideas, Implementation Strategies with others
 - *Neighboring municipalities*
 - *Chicago Wilderness*
 - *Reference Library*
- Review Efficacy and make recommended changes to Implementation Plans



Green Vision Plan

Storm Water Management Presentation Stakeholders Plan

A 46 slide Power Point presentation concerning storm water management was presented by Jay Womack of Conservation Design Forum with an introduction by Father Thomas Loya of the Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish located in Homer Glen. Under contract to the Church, Conservation Design Forum produced a storm water management and sustainable environment master plan which can have a positive impact on territories well beyond Homer Glen. As a tremendous amount of water finds its way to this region, *the theme of this project is to use water as a gift and not as a problem.* Details include a green roof, permeable pavers, prairie vegetation, path system, successive ponds, and meditative grottos. The Church welcomes the public to enjoy this innovative landscaped area upon completion.

Annunciation Parish Landscape Master Plan

"A Synthesis of Art, Engineering, & Ecology"



Jay Womack, ASLA
Conservation Design Forum, Inc.
Elmhurst, Illinois

March 14, 2004

CONSERVATION DESIGN FORUM



March 14, 2004

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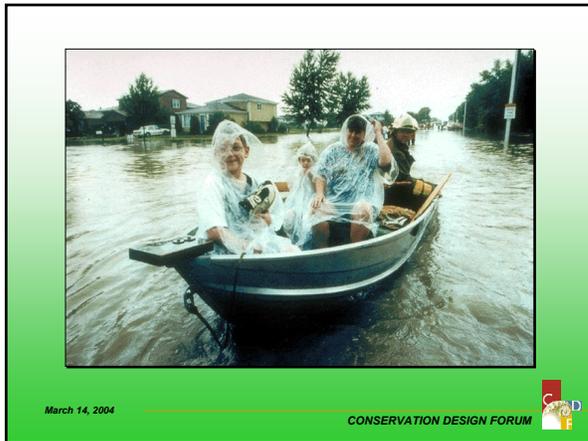
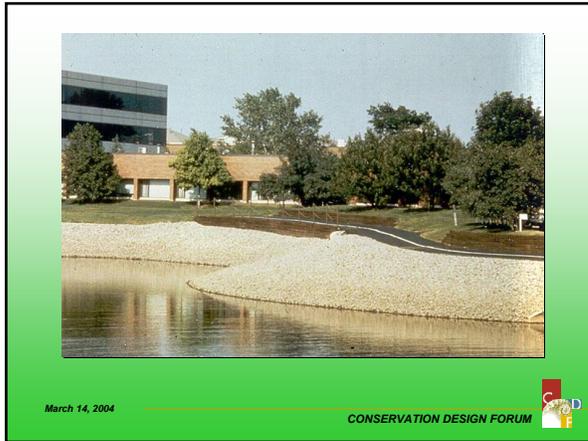
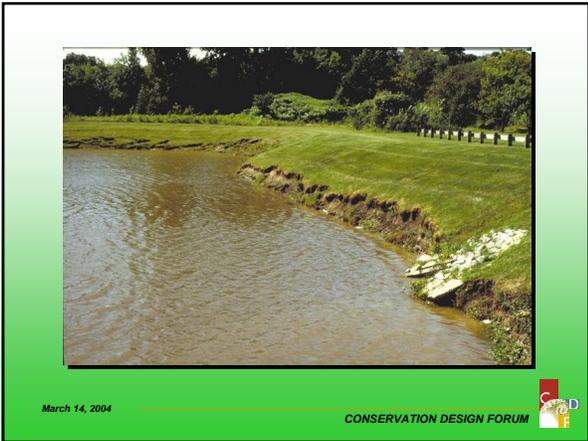
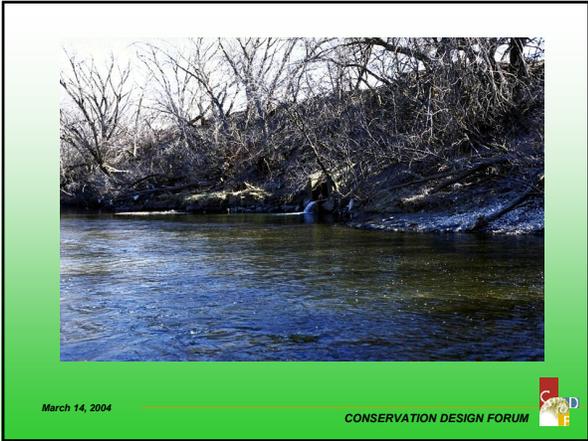
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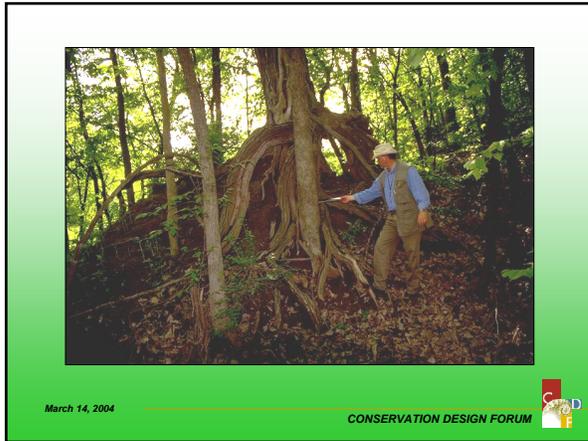
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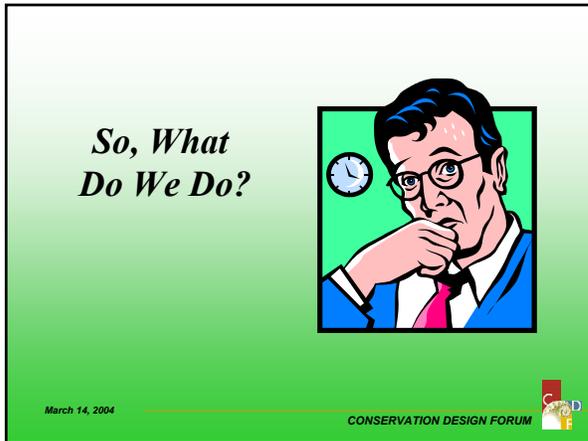
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