



VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE

EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT

JUNE 2022

PREPARED FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE

A COMPANION DOCUMENT TO THE 2023 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE

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1 OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

INTENT

This existing conditions report (ECR) was compiled as part of the comprehensive planning process for the Village of Sugar Grove, Illinois. This ECR and the 2023 Comprehensive Plan were developed in a partnership including the Village of Sugar Grove, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), and Design Workshop (consultant team). This ECR covers a range of topics relevant to comprehensive planning, including village demographics, infrastructure, housing, open space and natural resources, economic development, and transportation.

Over the intervening years since the Village of Sugar Grove's last comprehensive plan (2005), the community and physical makeup of the village have undergone changes in response to local, regional, national, and global circumstances. While the village's population has grown by a significant percentage in the last two decades, from an estimated 6,016 residents in 2003 to an estimated population of 10,110 residents in 2021 (an increase of 68% in eighteen years), growth has been significantly slower than was anticipated in the 2005 comprehensive plan.

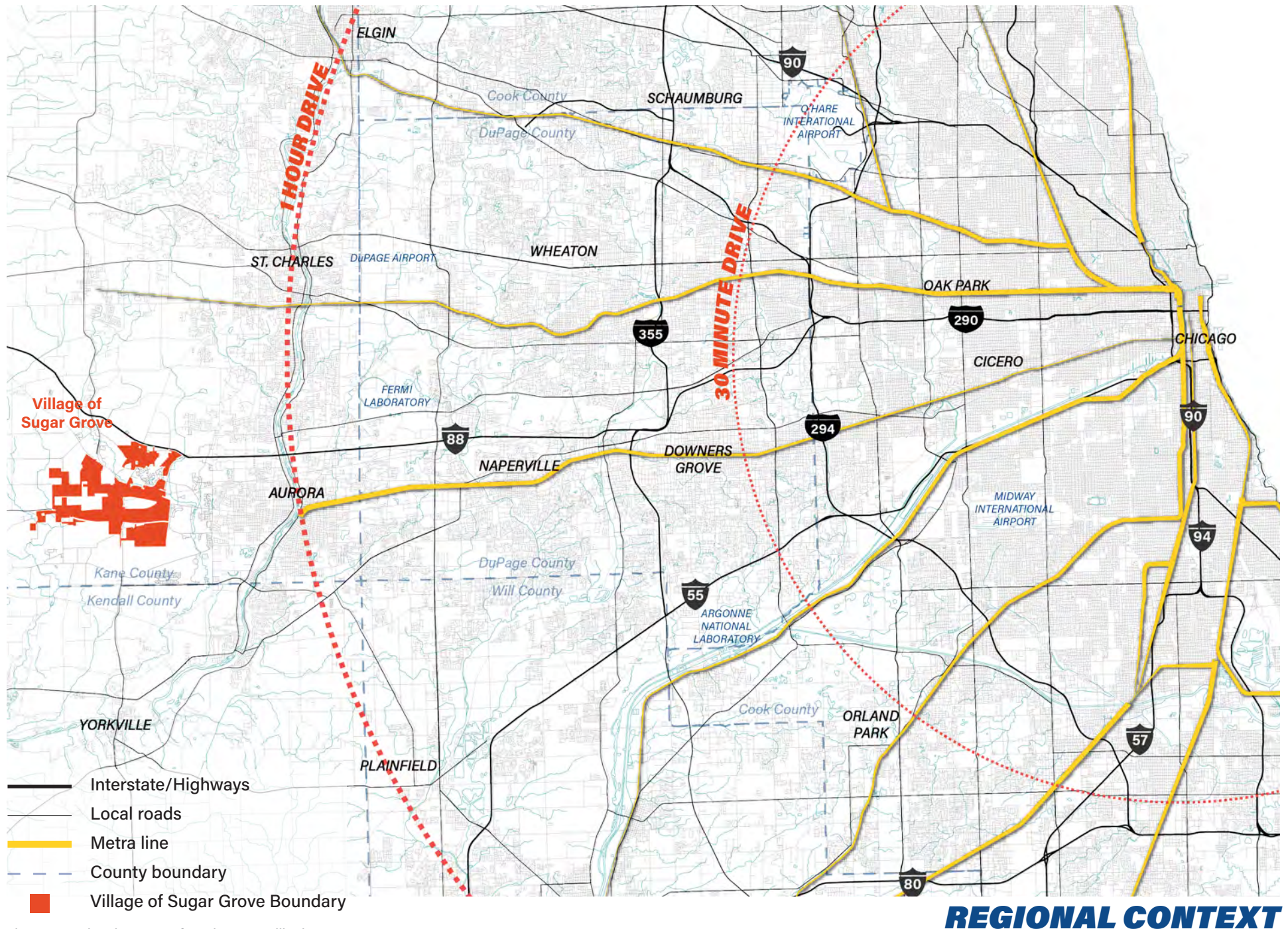
Additionally, factors such as renewed urban migration throughout the early 21st century, the Great Recession, the COVID-19 pandemic, and other national and global trends and forces have changed many of the assumptions and objectives outlined in 2005.

This report serves as a starting place for understanding the present conditions, opportunities, and challenges facing the village as it establishes new comprehensive plan goals, priorities, investments, and strategies for the future. The ECR establishes a baseline for understanding these conditions and what has changed since the village's last comprehensive

planning effort. This report is informational and does not include future-oriented goals, policies, or recommendations. These items can be found in the comprehensive plan document.

SURVEY RESULTS

In February and March of 2022, village residents were invited to participate in an online survey to gauge their experience with Sugar Grove and identify their priorities for its future. Over the course of five weeks, 927 people responded to the survey. Select results are included throughout this report to help inform an understanding of Sugar Grove's existing conditions.



REGIONAL CONTEXT

REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Village of Sugar Grove sits near the western boundary of the northeastern Illinois region and is one of Kane County's southernmost communities. The village straddles Blackberry Creek, which feeds into the Fox River, to the south, in neighboring Yorkville. As a largely suburban-style residential community settled in the 1880s and later incorporated in 1957, Sugar Grove serves mainly as a bedroom community for nearby urban centers and the larger region.

With easy access to I-88, Route 30, and Route 47, Sugar Grove is well-connected to the region by car. While the village does not have a

local transit system or a connection to northeastern Illinois' regional Metra system, the nearest station is approximately five miles to the east in downtown Aurora.

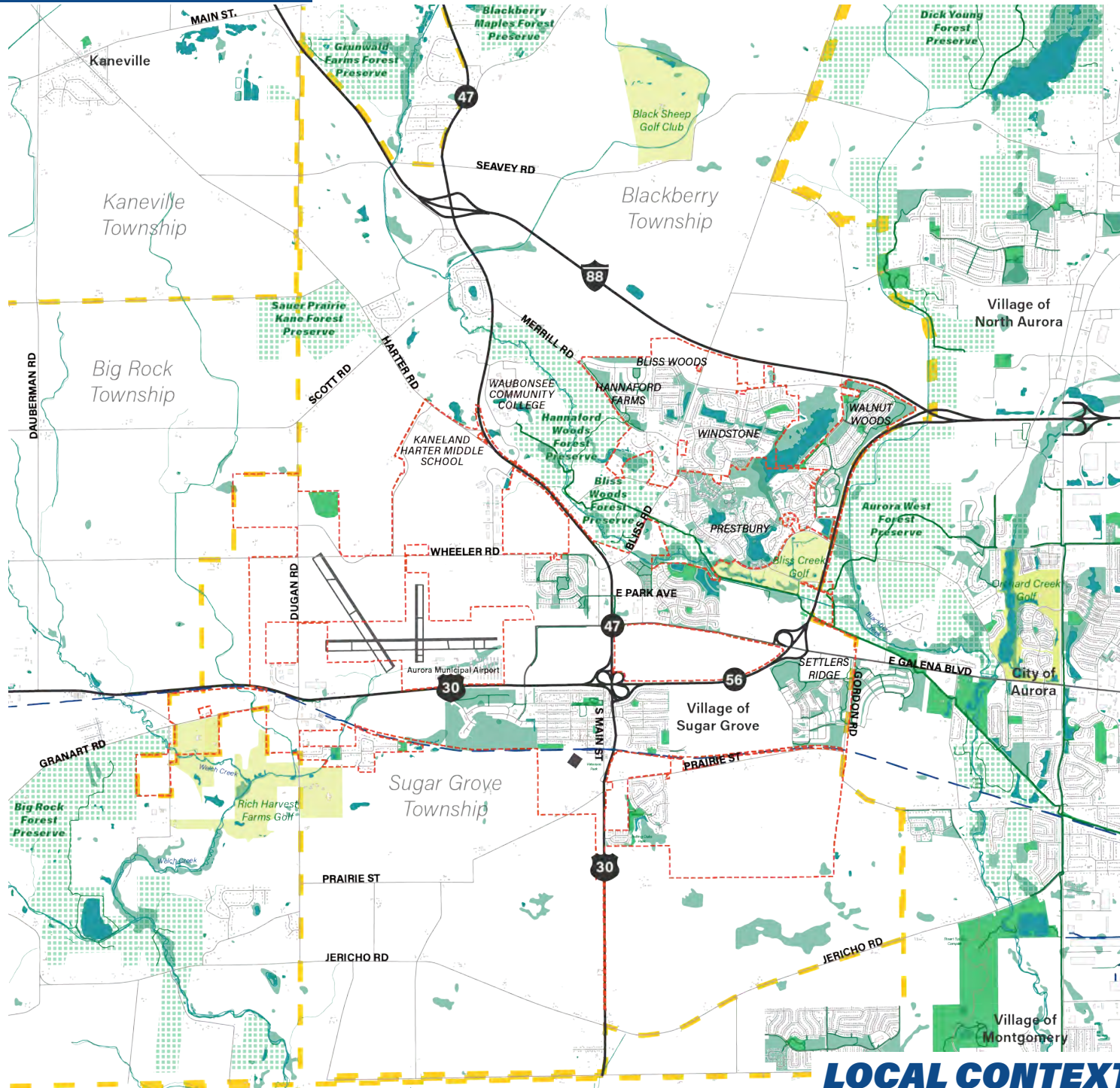
As home to the Aurora Municipal Airport in the western part of the community, Sugar Grove provides air access to the region for small private and commercial flights. Sugar Grove is home or adjacent to several cultural, recreational, and institutional destinations and amenities serving the larger region, including the Bliss Forest Nature Preserve, the West Aurora Forest Preserve, the Hannaford Woods Forest Preserve, the Bliss Creek Golf Course, the Air Classics

Museum, and the Sugar Grove Historical Society. Just north of the village is the Sugar Grove campus of Waubensee Community College—a public institution serving the western metropolitan region with an enrollment of approximately 9,000 full-time and part-time students.

As a village at the far edge of the region's urbanized area, Sugar Grove occupies a spot along a band of communities west of the Fox River where densities transition from urban development patterns in communities such as Aurora and Elgin to broad swaths of farmland west of Route 47. As a community on the outer edge of a

region where recent growth trends have favored suburban areas over historic cities, Sugar Grove has seen slow and steady growth over the last two decades.

EXISTING CONDITIONS



- Village of Sugar Grove Boundary
- Planning Area Boundary
- ▨ Forest Preserves
- Park/Recreational Area
- Natural Area
- Golf Course
- Surface Water
- Roadway- Arterial
- Roadway- Collector
- Roadway- Local
- Existing Bike Facility
- Railroad

Figure 2: Local context to the Village of Sugar Grove
Source: Kane County, Illinois;
Chicago Wilderness



LOCAL CONTEXT

VILLAGE CONTEXT

The Village of Sugar Grove encompasses an incorporated area of just over 11.5 square miles. The community is contained by a circuitous boundary generally situated between Hannaford Woods Forest Preserve to the north, I-88 to the northeast, West Aurora and the Aurora West Forest Preserve to the east, the BNSF rail line to the south, and Dugan Road to the west (with several large residential subdivision and farm parcels beyond these southern and western boundaries).

Several major outparcels create a patchwork of incorporated and unincorporated lands within the general boundary of incorporation,

including the primary airport facilities and two of its runways, farm parcels between Route 56 and East Galena Boulevard and between Route 47 and Wheeler Road, the Prestbury residential community, and other residential and farm properties south of the rail line.

The village's total land area comprises over 99% of the total incorporated area with Blackberry Creek being the only natural water body within the village. Beyond the Creek, residential communities have constructed small retention ponds throughout the community.

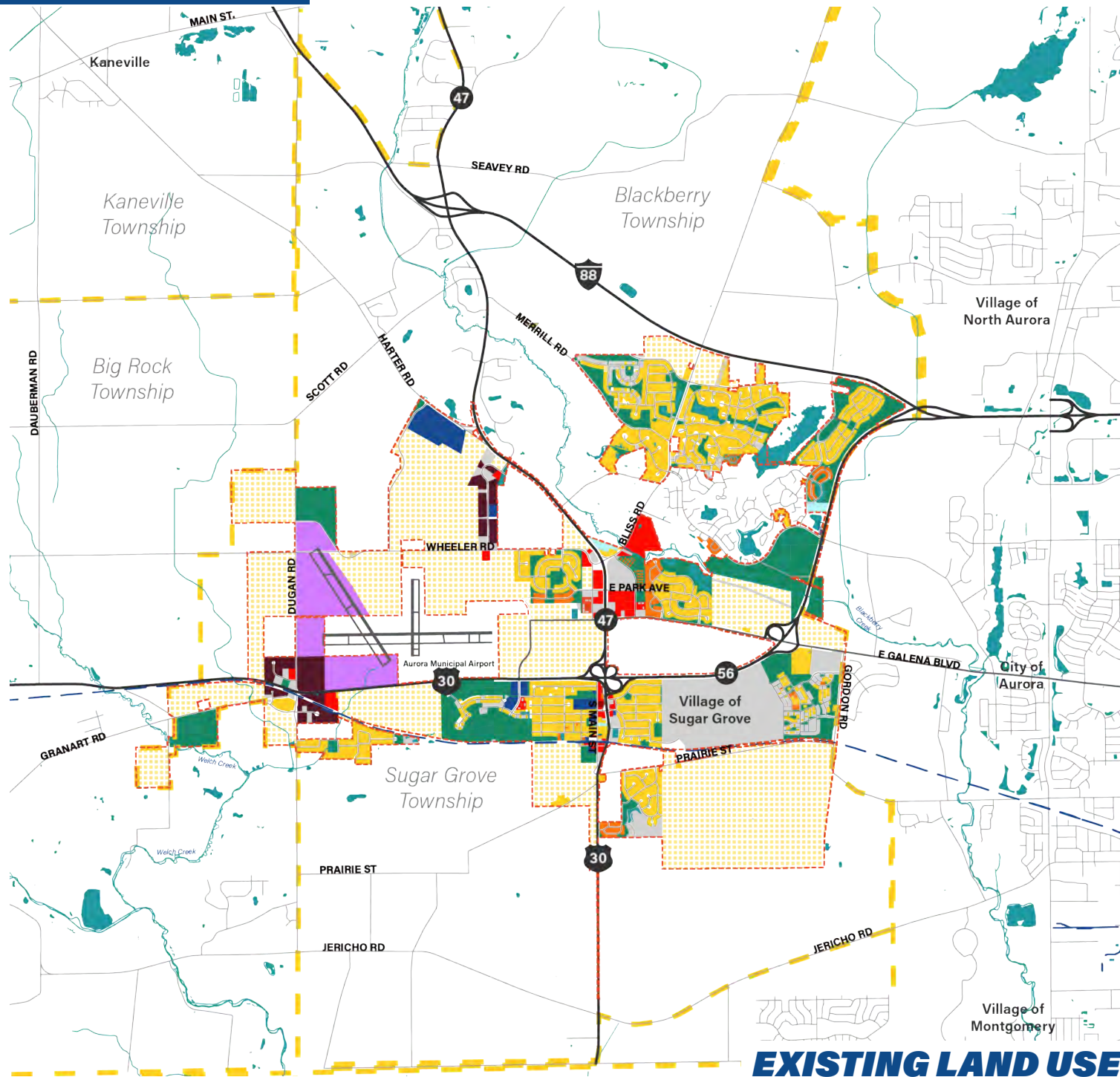


Example of Sugar Grove's contextual farmland and prairie landscapes



Blackberry Creek traverses Sugar Grove from northeast to southwest

EXISTING CONDITIONS



- Village of Sugar Grove Boundary
- Planning Area Boundary
- Agriculture
- Single Family
- Single Family Attached
- Multi-Family
- Urban Mix w/ Residential
- Commercial
- Religious Facilities
- Public Facilities
- Open Space
- Aircraft Transportation
- Industrial
- Vacant

Figure 3: Existing land use
Source: Kane County, Illinois
Chicago; Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)



EXISTING LAND USE

LAND USES

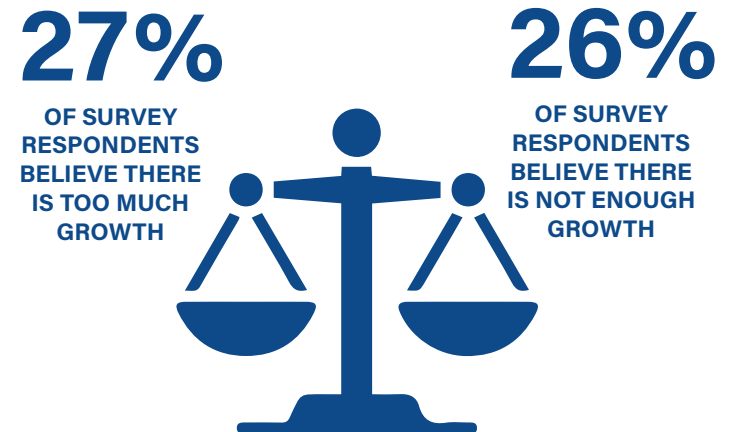
With the exception of the airport and associated uses, the Village of Sugar Grove largely comprises single-family residential neighborhoods, agricultural fields and uses, and commercial areas at major intersections with regional highways (Route 47 and East Galena Boulevard, Route 47 and Route 56, Route 30 and Dugan Road).

Beyond its boundaries, the village is surrounded with agricultural, conservation, single family residential, and golf course uses.

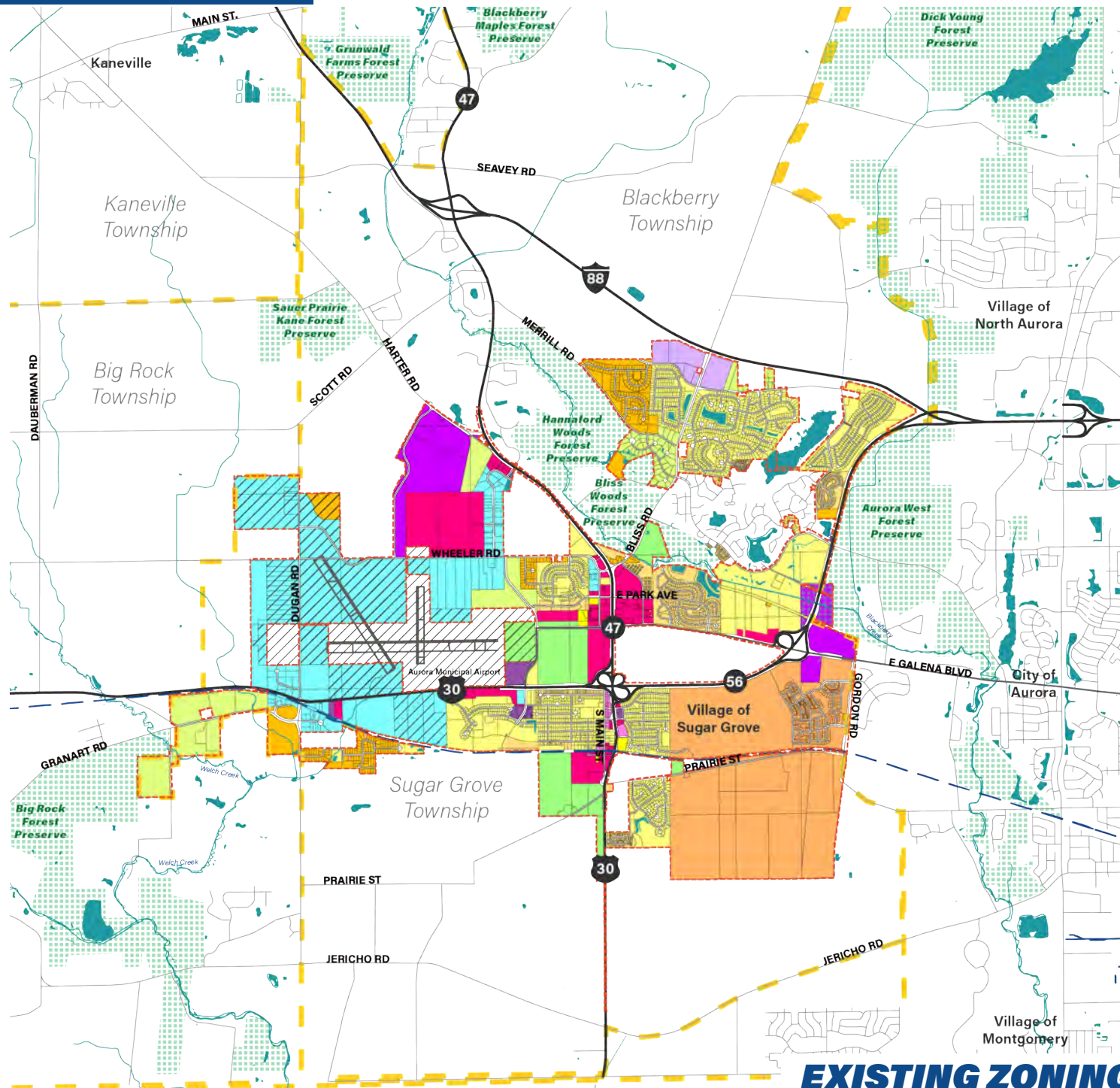
PLANNING FOR GROWTH

The 2018 Proposed Land Use Plan shows the Village of Sugar

Grove's intent to diversify local land use types, expand overall development, and densify through a strategy of infill. The plan aimed to leverage the Aurora Municipal Airport and I-88 as ideal locations for expanded industrial uses and bolster the town center commercial land use near the center of the village. Multi-family housing is suggested to occur adjacent to these town center and commercial corridor land uses—a best practice to support walkable communities. The plan also maintained the natural open space assets throughout the village to provide residents with equitable access to these resources.



EXISTING CONDITIONS



- - - Village of Sugar Grove Boundary
- - - Planning Area Boundary
- E1- Estate
- R1- Low Density Residential
- R2- Detached Residential
- R3- Medium Density Residential
- PD- Planned Development
- SR- Senior Residential
- B1- Community Shopping
- B2- General Business
- B3- Regional Business
- BP- Business Park
- M1- Limited Manufacturing
- I1- Light Industrial
- A1- Restricted Farming
- OR2- Office Research Park
- ▨ Airport Property
- ▨ Kane County Forest Preserves Property
- TIF District

Figure 4: Existing zoning
Source: Kane County, Illinois; Village of Sugar Grove, Illinois



EXISTING ZONING

ZONING

The Village of Sugar Grove constitutes fifteen specialized zoning districts and several Planned Unit Development and Special Use parcels. Of these fifteen zones, single family residential zones (E1, R1, R2, and R3), general business zones (BP and B3), light industrial zones (M1), agricultural (A1), and planned development districts (PDD) dominate. There is little speculative zoning in Sugar Grove and zoning largely reflects existing development patterns and land uses, with most single-family residential development to the east of the community, business and retail uses and zones in the center

along Route 47, and industrial and high-impact commercial uses around and comprising the airport



Shops on Main Street



Attached, single-family residential neighborhood

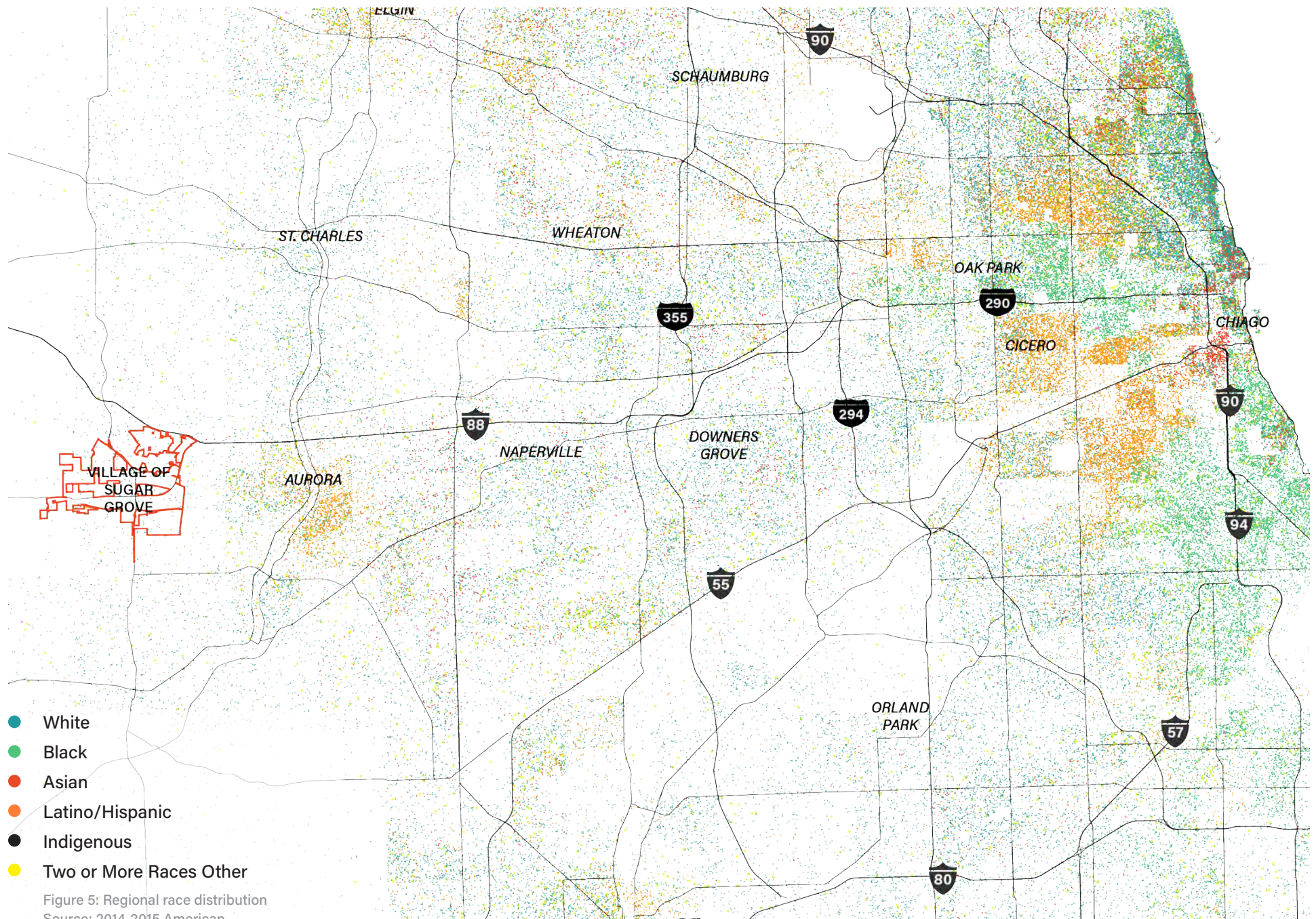


Figure 5: Regional race distribution
Source: 2014-2015 American
Community Survey

REGIONAL RACIAL DISTRIBUTION

DEMOGRAPHICS

As of 2021, 85.5% of Sugar Grove's population was White with the second and third largest racial groups being Other (2.7%) and Asian (1.8%). Sugar Grove has a significantly higher number of White residents than both the seven-county region and state, in which 65% and 69% of residents identify as White, respectively. Sugar Grove has a significantly lower number of Hispanic and Latino (of any race) residents when compared to the seven-county region and state, with Hispanic residents accounting for only 12% of the village's population, while making up 24% of the region's population and 18% of the state's population.

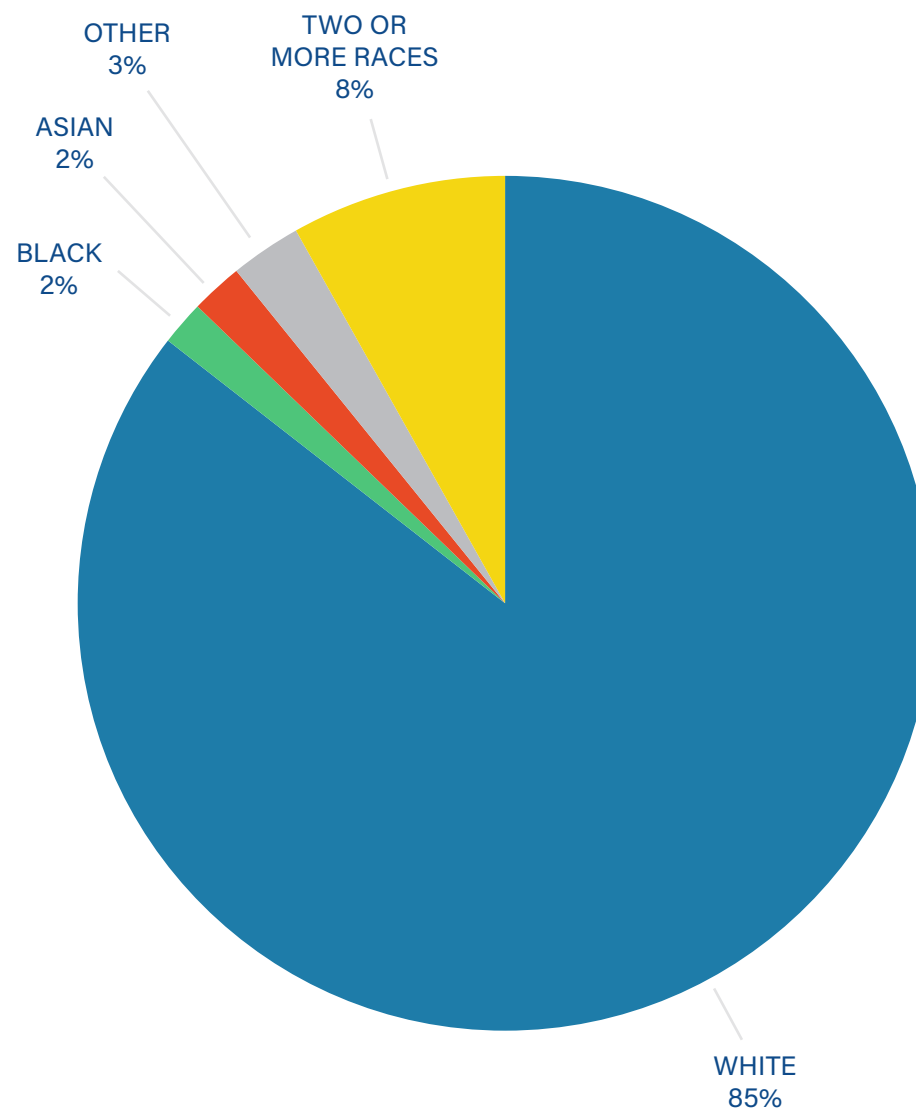
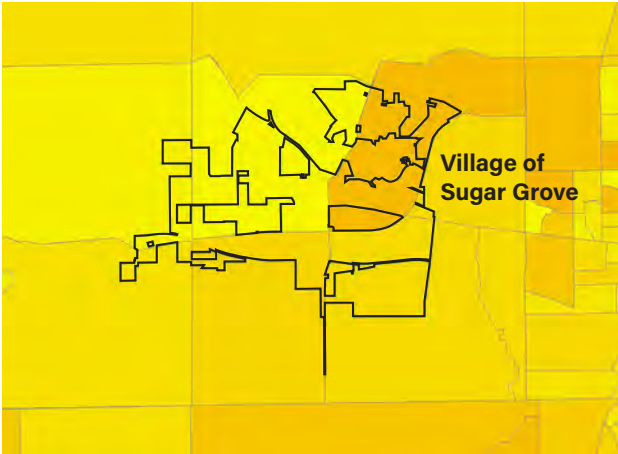
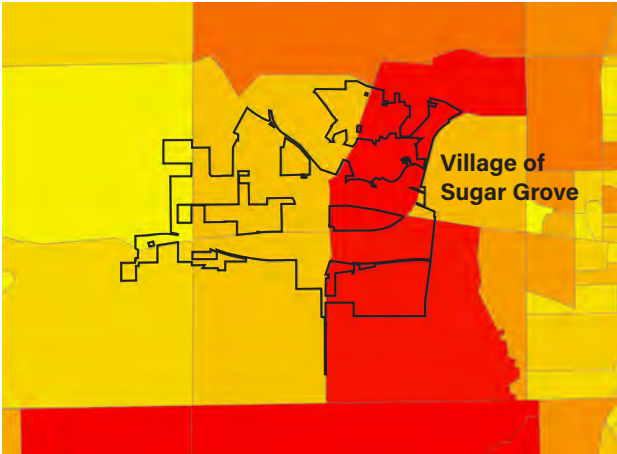


Figure 6: Regional race demographics
Source: 2014-2015 American Community Survey

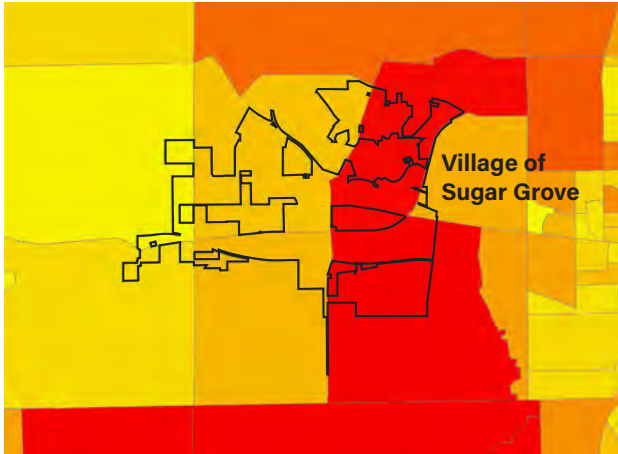
EXISTING CONDITIONS



2000 POPULATION



2010 POPULATION



2020 POPULATION

POPULATION LEGEND



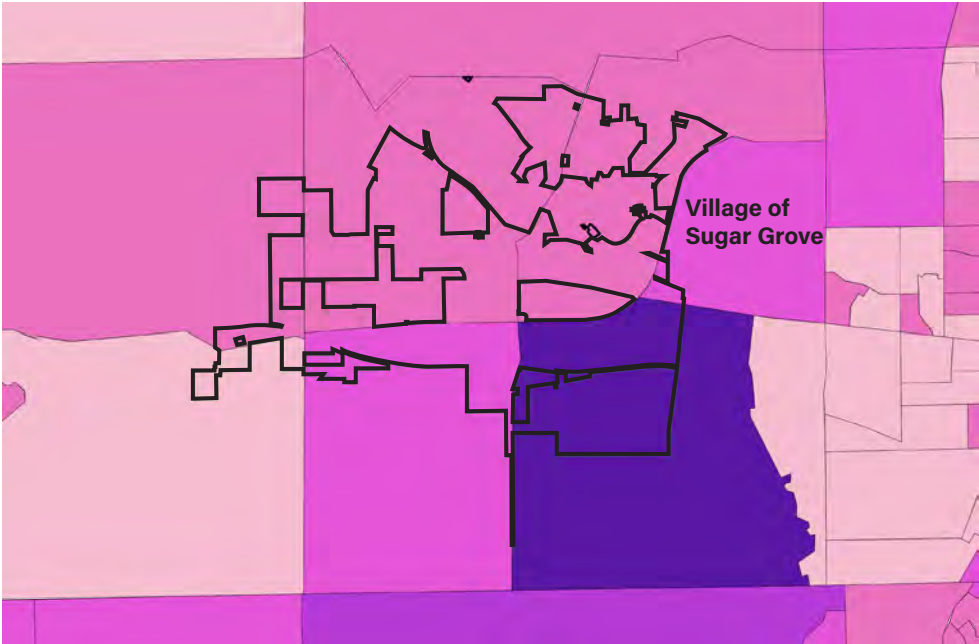
450 People

6,200+ People

Values represented by census block.

Figure 7: Population growth over time

Source: ESRI



2021-2026 GROWTH RATE (GR)

GROWTH RATE LEGEND

- .89-.04 % Growth Predicted
- .04-.62
- .62-1.63
- 1.63-3.32
- 3.32-13.25

Values represented by census block.

Figure 8: Projected growth rate (GR)

Source: ESRI

POPULATION

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 Decennial Census, Sugar Grove's 2020 population was 9,278. Between 2010 and 2021 the village experienced limited growth, only gaining 490 new residents for a compound annual growth rate of 0.48%. While minimal, the village's growth exceeded both the seven-county region and State's population growth rate, which measure 0.24% and -0.05%, respectively.

According to population projection estimates completed by agencies such as ESRI and CMAP, growth within Sugar Grove is expected to drastically increase through 2050, with the village's population

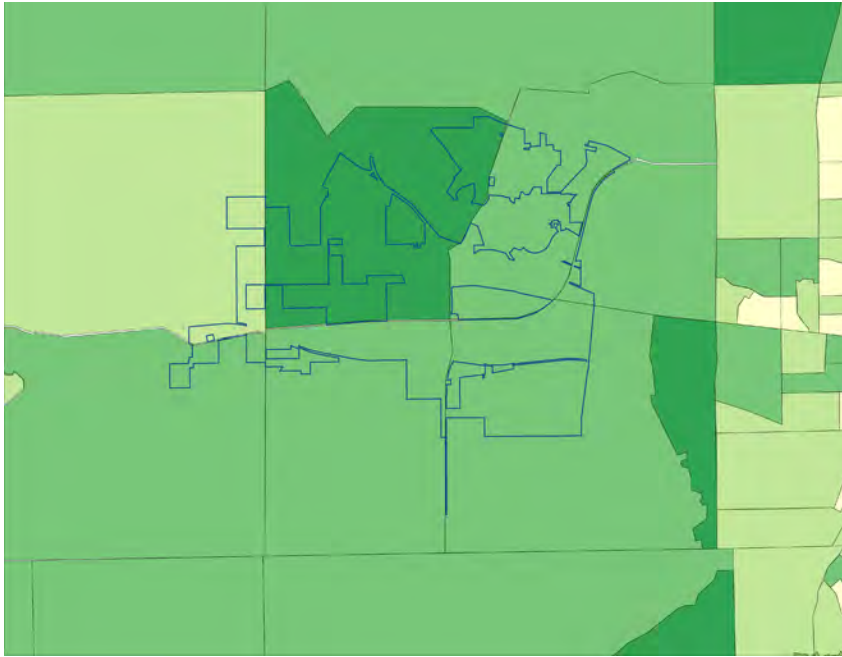
growing by 97% to 18,735 persons. Growth within the village is projected to rapidly outpace growth within Kane County through 2050, with the county growing by 47% and reaching a population of 796,415 by 2050.



Members of the Sugar Grove community participating in a planning workshop in March 2022.

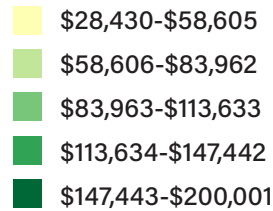


A streetside lending library outside a church on Main Street in Sugar Grove.



INCOME

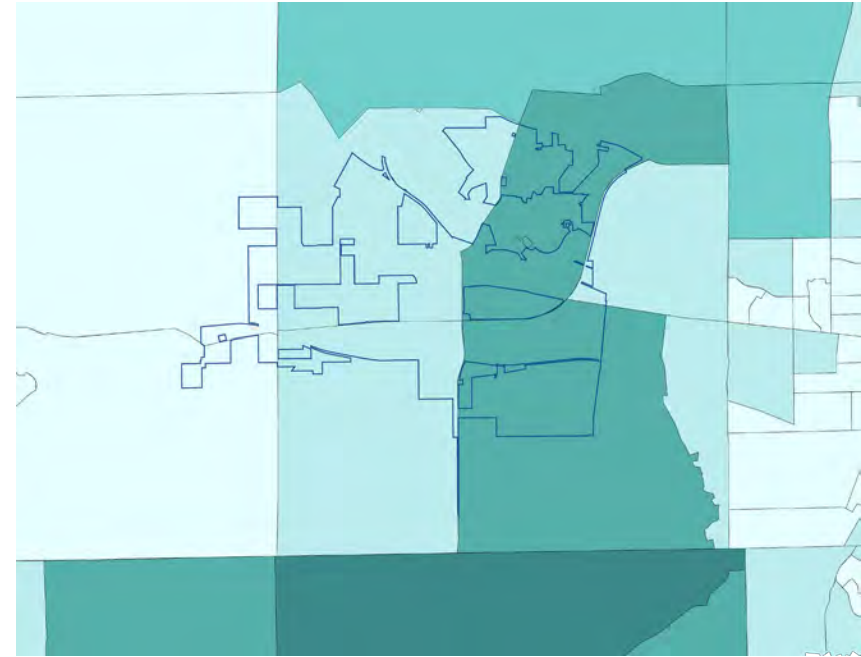
Sugar Grove's 2021 median household income was \$111,767—significantly higher than both the median household income of the northeast Illinois region (\$77,836), and state (\$68,663). The median household income in Sugar Grove is expected to rise modestly through 2026, increasing by 0.46% annually through 2026 while the northeast Illinois region and state annually increase 2.16% and 2.28%, respectfully. Income distribution of Sugar Grove's population is heavily skewed towards higher income households, with 60.46% of households making above \$100,000 per year.



Median household income by census block.

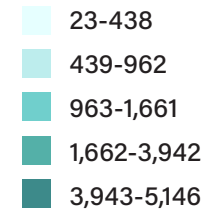
Figure 9: Income distribution

Source: ESRI



OWNER OCCUPIED HOUSING

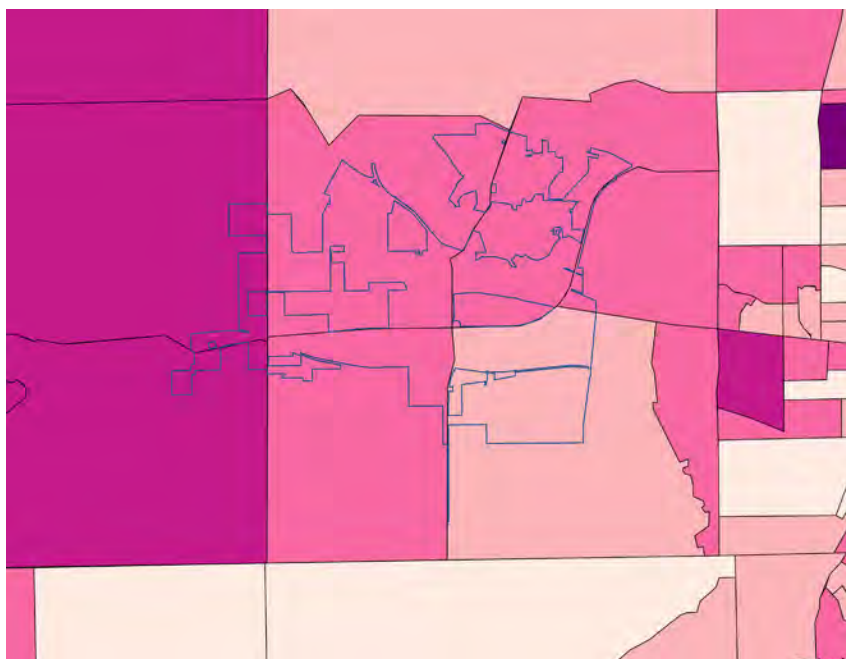
In 2021 there were 3,105 households in Sugar Grove with an average household size of 2.86 persons. Of the 3,105 households within Sugar Grove, 79.6% are family households, meaning that one or more persons in the household are related to the householder (formerly, the head of the household) by birth, marriage, or adoption. The number of family households within Sugar Grove is higher than both the northeast Illinois region (60.0%) and state (64.4%). The average family size in Sugar Grove is 3.23 persons.



Owner occupied housing by census block.

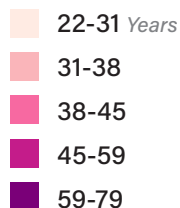
Figure 10: Owner occupied housing distribution

Source: ESRI



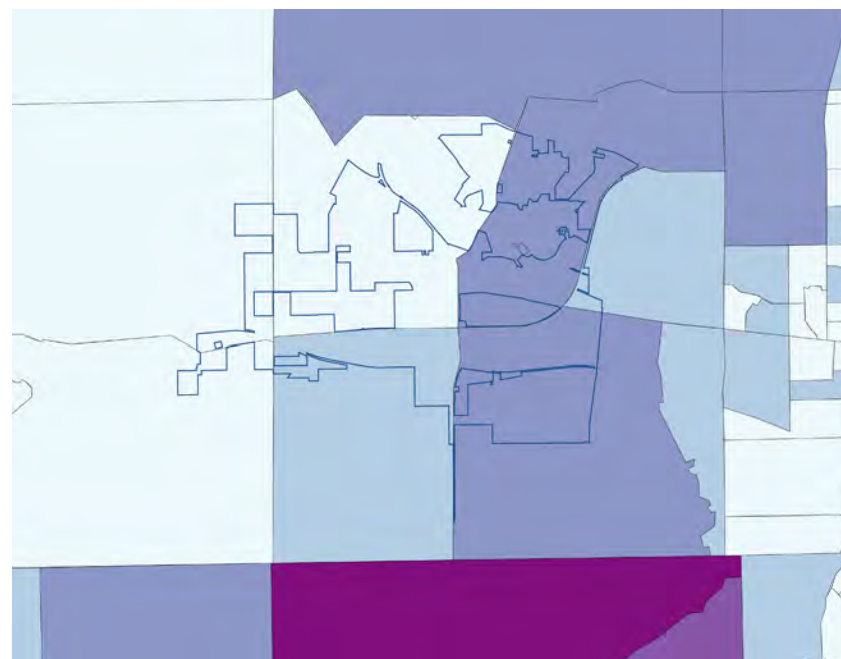
AGE

Sugar Grove's median age is 39.9, older than the northeast Illinois region (37.6) and State (38.4). Despite the slightly older median age, over a third of the population, or approximately 39%, is below 30 years of age. The largest age group in the village is 10-29 years old, comprising approximately 15% of the population. The second and third largest age area 40-49 years old and 50-59 years old, comprising 14.0% and 18.8% of the population, respectively. The northeast Illinois region has a similar age profile to Sugar Grove, with over a third of the population, or approximately 42%, below 30 years of age.



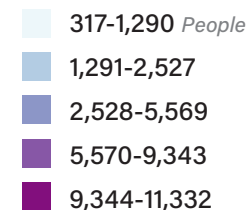
Median age by census block.

Figure 11: Age distribution
Source: ESRI



INTERNET ACCESS

The level of internet access in Sugar Grove correlates directly to the population density. According to ESRI, 97% of residents within Sugar Grove have access to internet at home with 96% of that being broadband/high speed. This is higher than the national and state averages according to the U.S. Census American Community Survey.



People with internet access by census block.

Figure 12: Internet as distribution
Source: ESRI

2

TRANSPORTATION

MOBILITY IN SUGAR GROVE

In 2022, the Village of Sugar Grove community has limited options for moving around the village and for accessing the larger region. Like many suburban communities, access to a car is essentially required for consistent and reliable mobility throughout the community. With boundaries stretching to and sometimes encompassing I-88, Route 30, Route 47, and Route 56, the village provides easy vehicular access to the larger region.

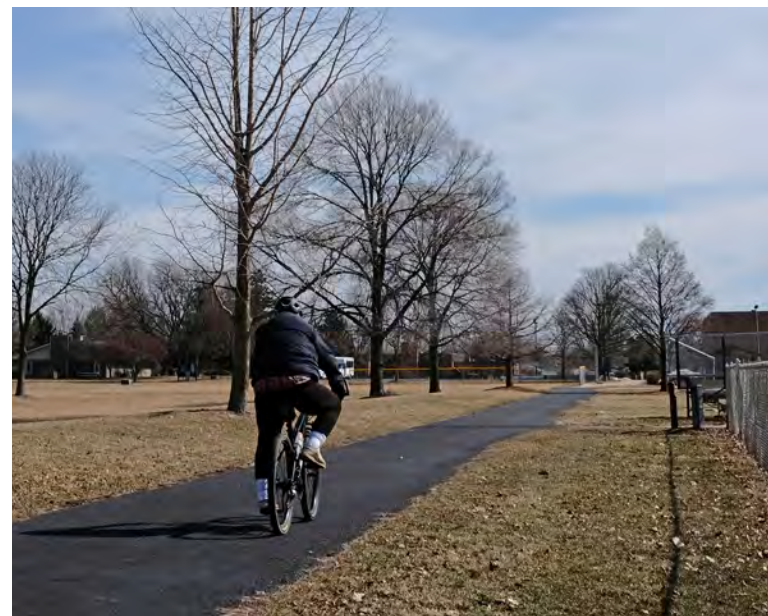
While the village's neighborhoods and many nearby natural areas provide walking and biking paths internally, little of this infrastructure

exists to connect the village to surrounding communities, with the exception of the Virgil Gilman Nature Trail, which carries pedestrians and cyclists a total of 22.7 miles through the western part of the region.

Overall traffic levels throughout and around the community are fairly low. Route 47 is the busiest road in town with an average daily traffic (ADT) count in 2020 ranging from 17,000 to 21,500 trips (see figure 14). Outside the village's boundaries, regional highways including I-88 and Route 56 reach ADT levels beyond 20,000 and 30,000.



Looking east on Prairie Street



A cyclist heading east in Volunteer Park

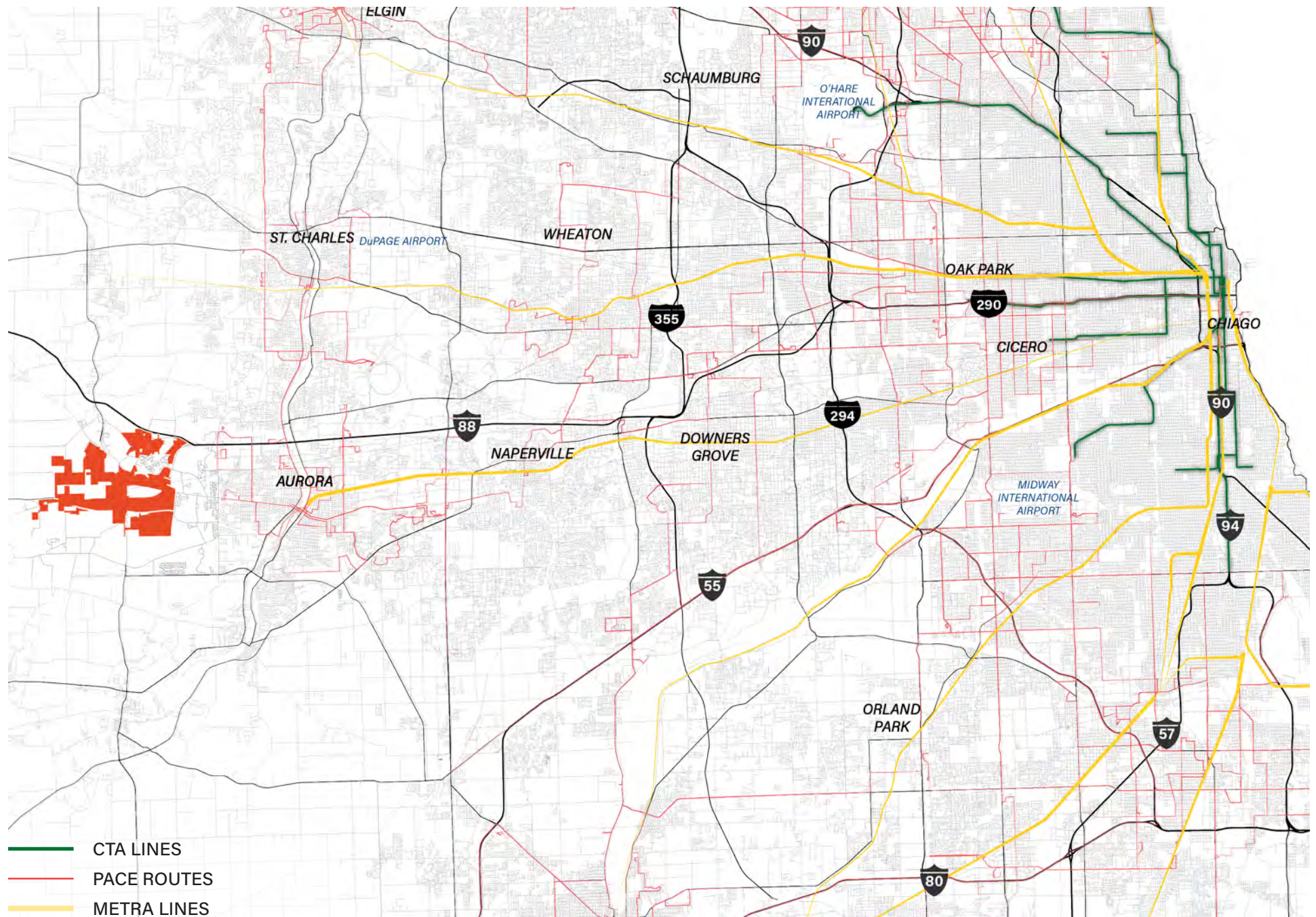


Figure 13: Regional connectivity

CONNECTIVITY

VEHICULAR CONNECTIVITY

Located just 42 miles from downtown Chicago and immediately west of Aurora, the Village of Sugar Grove is on the outer edge of the urbanized northeastern Illinois region. The village is well connected to the rest of the region by means of three major highways: I-88, Route 30, and Route 47.

TRANSIT CONNECTIVITY

As of 2022, there is no transit service in the Village of Sugar Grove. The closest regional transit connection is at the Aurora Metra Station in neighboring Aurora. This

commuter rail station is located approximately five miles from the village and provides rail access to downtown Chicago.

AIR & RAIL CONNECTIVITY

The village is adjacent to a 5.5-mile-long segment of the approximately 2,000-mile-long BNSF mainline railway, connecting Chicago to Seattle. There are presently two industrial rail spurs within the village that connect to the mainline. The village is also adjacent to and partially encompasses the Aurora Municipal Airport. The airport is owned and operated

by the neighboring City of Aurora, contains three runways (the longest of which is nearly 7,000 feet long), and supports mostly small aircraft and general aviation uses, such as medical and emergency service flights, recreational aviation, corporate travel, air taxiing, and a small amount of military traffic.

SAFETY

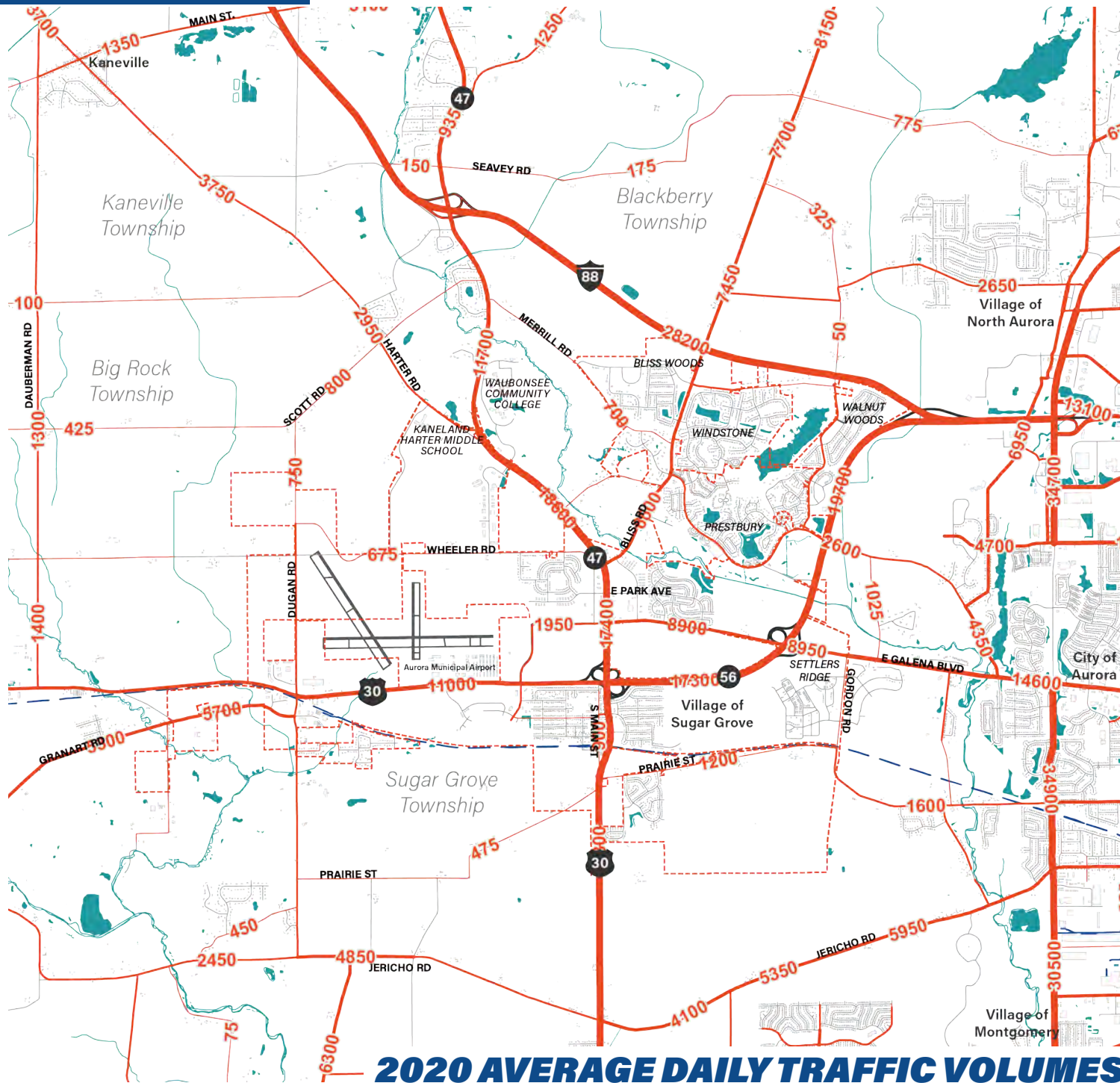
As a place at the crossroads of multiple high-speed and high-capacity highways, Sugar Grove sees a high volume of vehicular traffic within and around its boundaries. As a result of high speeds and high traffic volumes, there are high rates of vehicular

crashes in the area, mostly concentrated along the highways and at intersections where two major routes meet. Daily traffic volumes correlate with accident activity between 2016 and 2020.



OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS USE THEIR PERSONAL VEHICLE AS THE PRIMARY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION

EXISTING CONDITIONS



— Roadway Traffic (weighted by traffic volume; thicker lines have higher volume)

____ Roadway-Local(No traffic data)

Average Daily Traffic Volume

- - - Railroad

Figure 14: Average daily traffic volumes, 2020

Source: Illinois Department of Transportation; Kane County, Illinois

2020 AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC VOLUMES



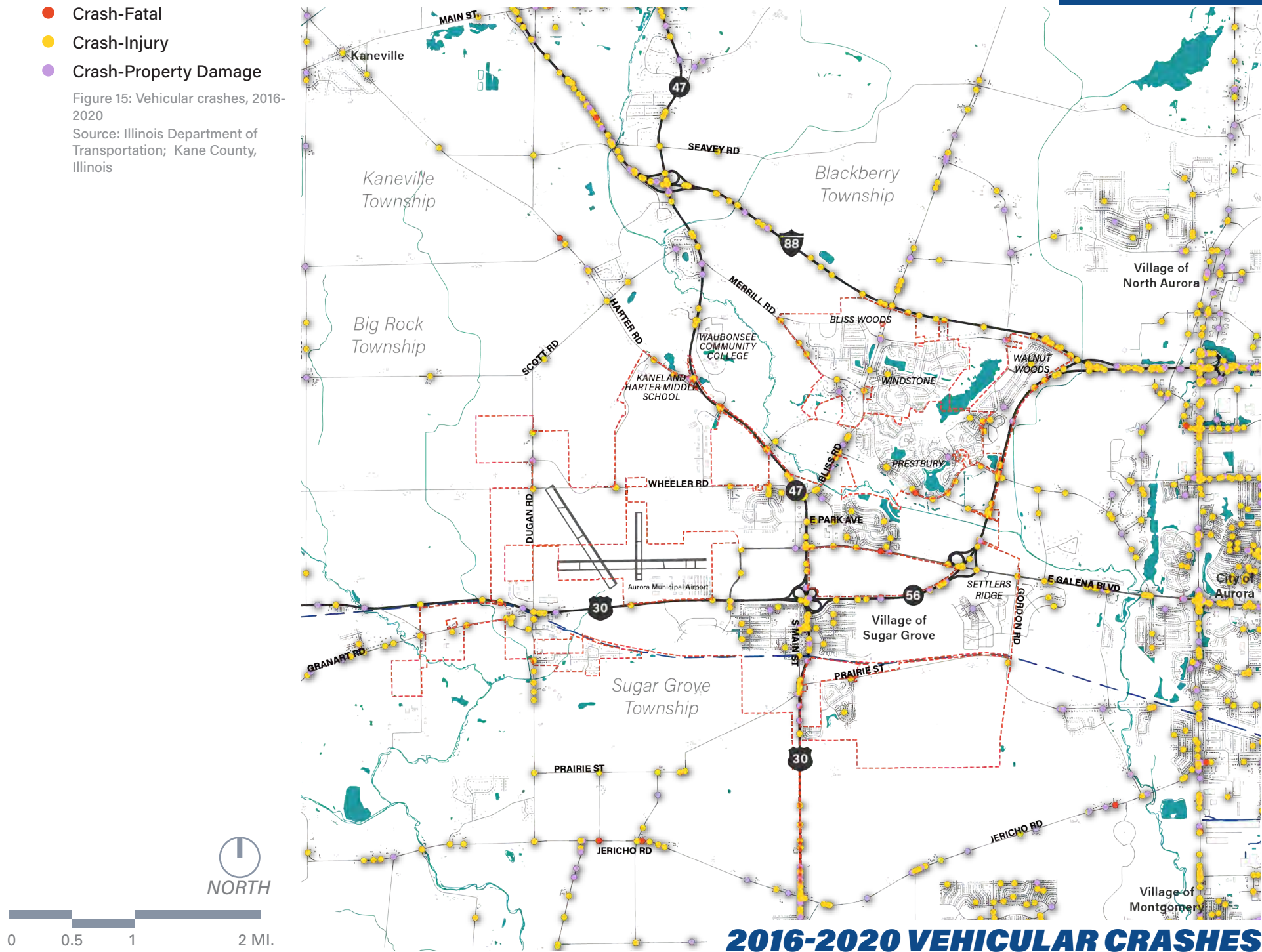
NORTH

0 0.5 1 2 MI.

- Crash-Fatal
- Crash-Injury
- Crash-Property Damage

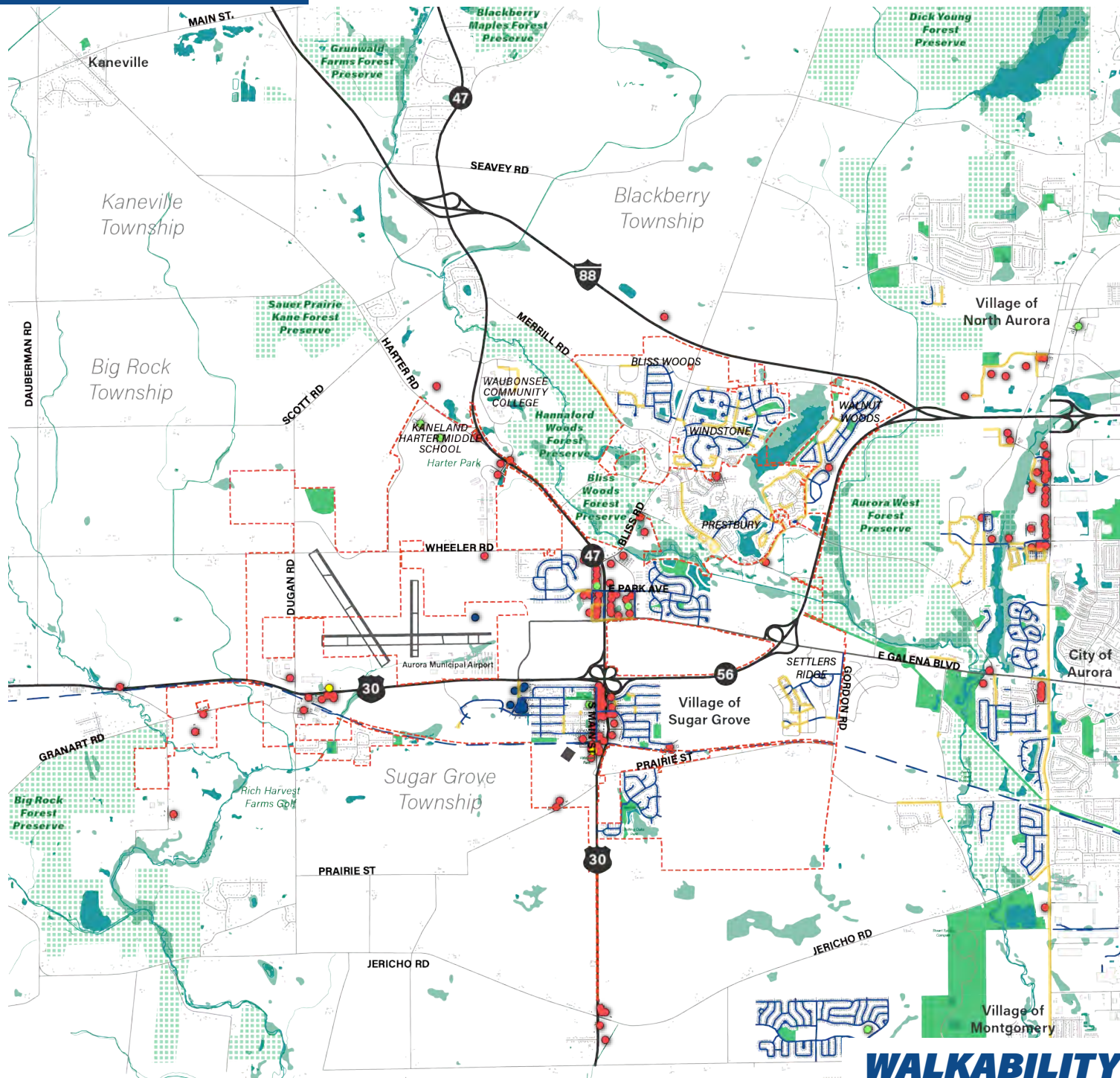
Figure 15: Vehicular crashes, 2016-2020

Source: Illinois Department of Transportation; Kane County, Illinois



2016-2020 VEHICULAR CRASHES

EXISTING CONDITIONS



- Commercial
- Municipal
- Museum
- Grocery Store
- Sidewalk- Both Sides
- Sidewalk- One Side
- ▨ Forest Preserves
- Park/Recreational Area
- Natural Area
- Golf Course
- Surface Water
- Existing Bicycle Facility

Figure 16: Walkability

Source: Kane County, Illinois;
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for
Planning (CMAP)



WALKABILITY

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN NETWORKS

WALKABILITY

The Village of Sugar Grove can best be described in 2022 as a suburb or bedroom community, with single-family residential land uses comprising the largest single share of the total incorporated area. As shown in figure 16, its residential neighborhoods provide effective pedestrian connectivity with sidewalks on both sides of most residential streets. While this network of sidewalks provides opportunities for pedestrians to walk within residential neighborhoods, the village lacks a walkable urban/town center, with major roads, such as Hankes Road, Bliss Road, Denny

Road, East Galena Boulevard, Municipal Drive, and East Park Avenue, missing sidewalks entirely or providing incomplete networks with major sidewalk gaps. Pedestrian connectivity throughout the community is further hindered by the presence of the aforementioned highways weaving between and dividing residential neighborhoods and commercial areas, making pedestrian connectivity between neighborhoods and commercial areas limited and unsafe. In most cases, no sidewalks, separated paths, or crosswalks exist to offer safe and accessible pedestrian passage across these highways.

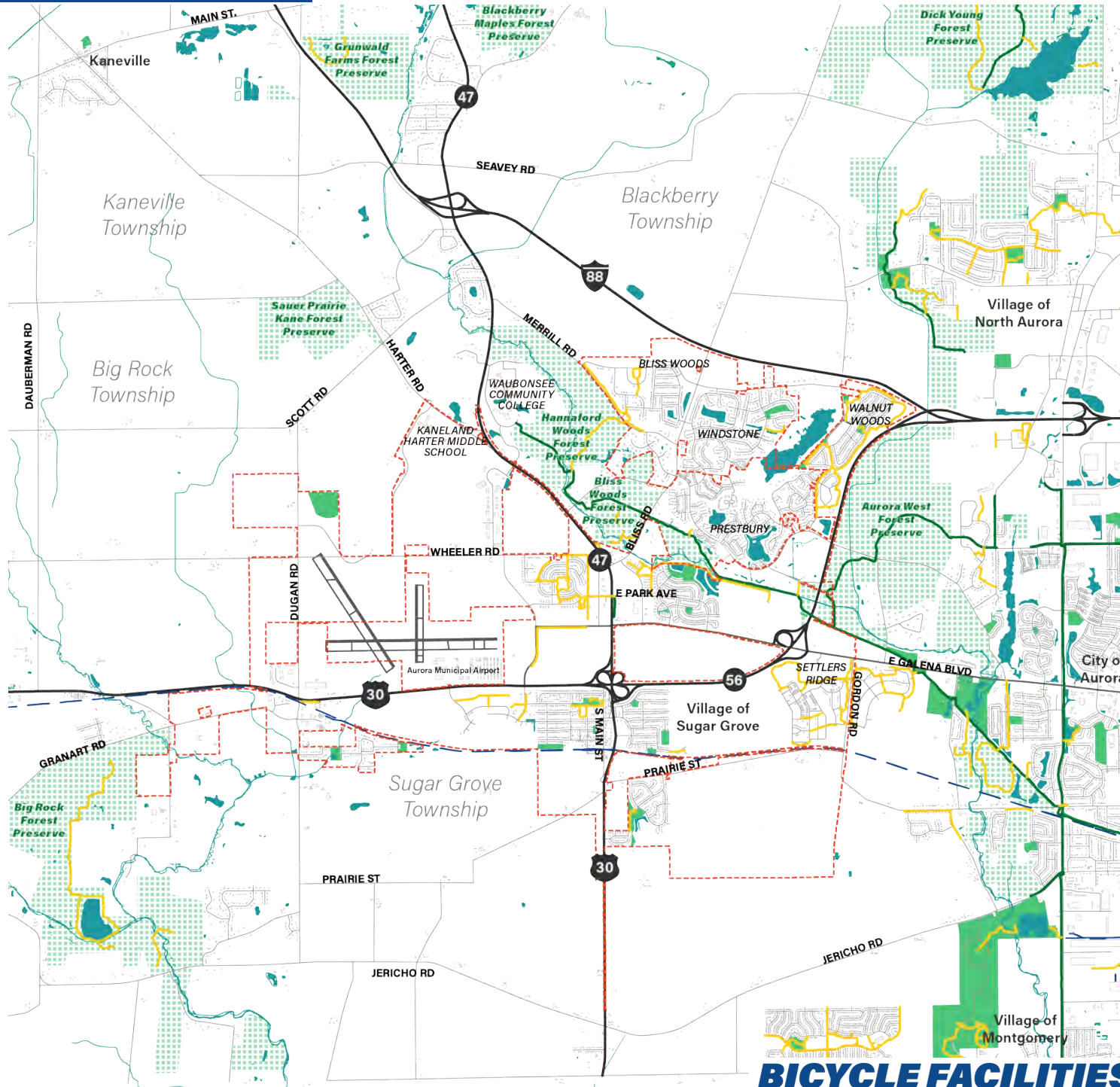


Sidewalks in a residential neighborhood



Sidewalks along Main Street

EXISTING CONDITIONS



- Existing Local Bicycle Facilities
- Existing Regional Bicycle Facilities
- Forest Preserves
- Park/Recreation Area
- Surface Water

Figure 17: Average daily traffic volumes, 2020

Source: Kane Kendall Council of Mayors (KKMOM); Kane County, Illinois





Pedestrian bridge in the neighborhood of Settlers Ridge.



Virgil Gilman Nature Trail bridge over Route 56.

BICYCLE NETWORKS

While the Village of Sugar Grove has local and regional bicycle facilities, many of these facilities located within residential neighborhoods and lack connections between neighborhoods and commercial areas. Considered a major asset for the village, the Virgil Gilman Nature Trail is a bicycle and pedestrian route that takes one from Hill Avenue in Aurora, past the Fox River, over Route 57 with a bridge, through Bliss Woods Forest Preserve, and to Waubensee Community College. This trail connects the village to the wider trail networks in Aurora, such as the Fox River Trail, and provides ecological value as it is buffered

with dense, natural plantings. While this is a major trail spine throughout the community, many residents of Sugar Grove expressed that there are limited connections to the trail by walking or cycling. Major roads throughout the community, such as Bliss Road, Route 47, Route 30, Route 57, and East Galena Boulevard, are missing critical bicycle facilities that would create a comprehensive bicycle network throughout the village (see figure 17). It was also noted by residents that neighborhoods south of Route 30 and Route 57 are especially disconnected from assets within the community, such as the forest preserves and the Virgil Gilman Nature Trail, as major highways divide these neighborhoods and do not support bicycle or pedestrian connections.



59%

OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS
WOULD USE PEDESTRIAN
INFRASTRUCTURE SOMEWHAT
FREQUENTLY OR MORE IF
IMPROVED.



54%

OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS
WOULD USE BIKE
INFRASTRUCTURE SOMEWHAT
FREQUENTLY OR MORE IF
IMPROVED.

3

RESILIENCY

OVERVIEW

The Village of Sugar Grove's green spaces including parks, forests, and open spaces play an integral role in sustaining a healthy ecosystem while also providing recreation, gathering, and leisure opportunities. The village is also bounded by Blackberry Creek to the north and east and Welch Creek to the west, both of which flow into the Fox River approximately 12 miles south. It is critical to understand these environmental systems to identify and protect corridors for long-term sustainability and ecological services.

Historically, the northwest Illinois region was once dominated by

prairie ecosystems with networks of wooded ecosystems, such as oak forest and savannas. As shown in figure 19, the village was primarily comprised of prairie and oak ecosystems before turning into agricultural plots by settlers in the late 1880s. These pre-settlement ecosystems provided essential ecosystem functions, such as supporting habitat, capturing carbon, and managing water. While many of these ecosystems have become further fragmented in recent years due to agricultural activities and development patterns, remnants of these ecosystems can be found throughout the village due to the conservation efforts of local and regional partners.



Sugar Grove today comprises large prairie landscape areas



A stormwater detention area in Sugar Grove

EXISTING CONDITIONS

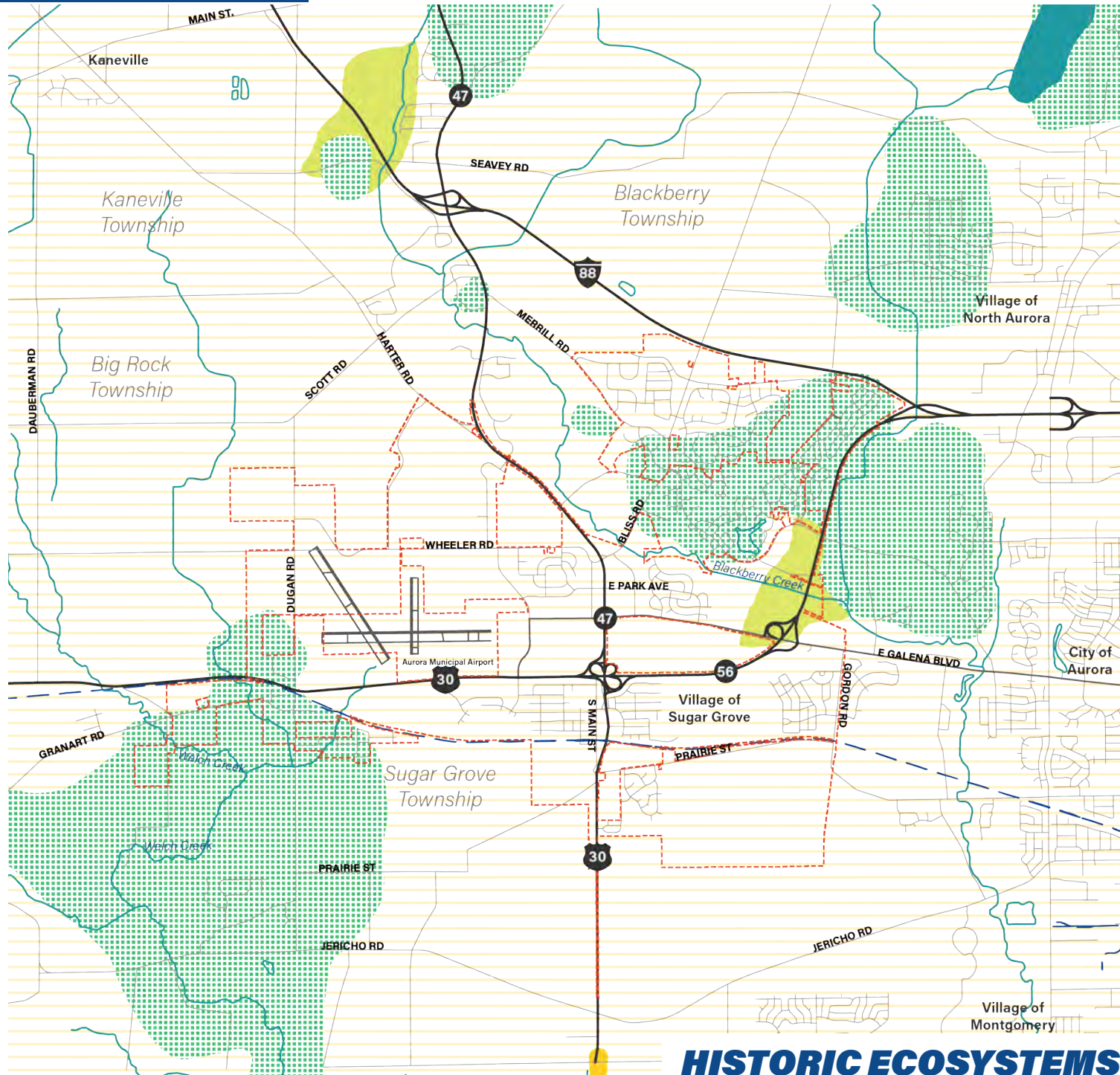


Figure 18: Historic ecosystems
Source: Chicago Wilderness



HISTORIC ECOSYSTEMS

Climate studies show that Illinois will continue to see increases in precipitation, heat, and frequency of large storm events. The average daily temperatures are expected to increase between 4 to 9 degrees Fahrenheit under low emissions projections and possibly 8 to 14 degrees Fahrenheit under a high emissions projection.

Precipitation patterns are also expected to shift in regard to increased heavy rain periods and long dry periods. By 2090, it is projected that extreme hot days, those with a daytime maximum temperature at or above 95°F, will increase from the current 1 to 2 days per year to 10 to 60 days per year under a low emissions model. The Village of Sugar Grove should plan around these projections with resilient planning and design to prevent damage to current and future development.

Ensuring a resilient future means incorporating smart, sustainable practices into every step of community growth—from planning through long-term maintenance. The village's infrastructure assets, such as roads and utility and distribution systems require strategic planning to address issues of growth and increasing demand. This issue is particularly salient with respect to drinking water, as addressed in the Water Supply and Demand Conditions report in the appendix of this document.

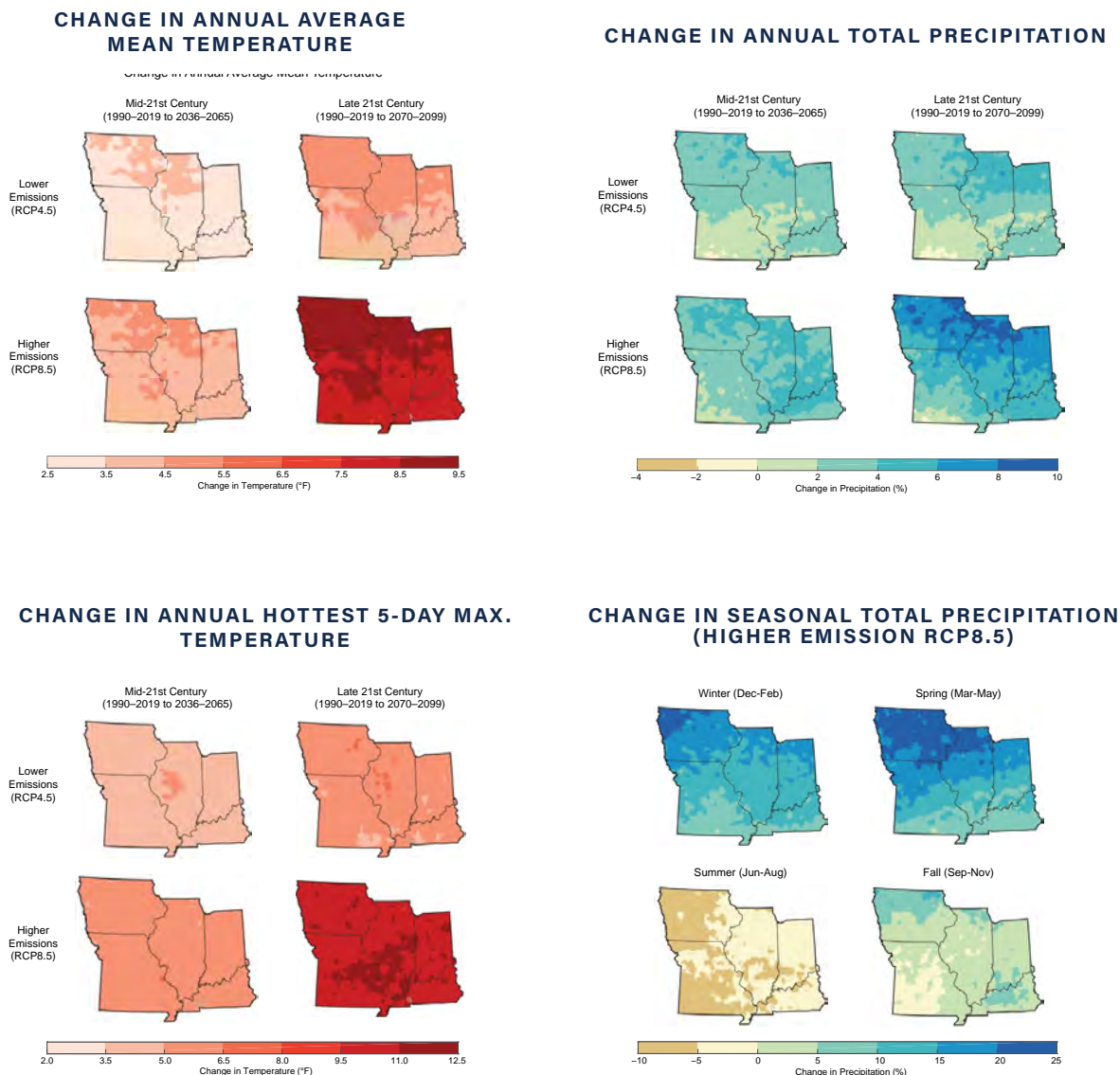
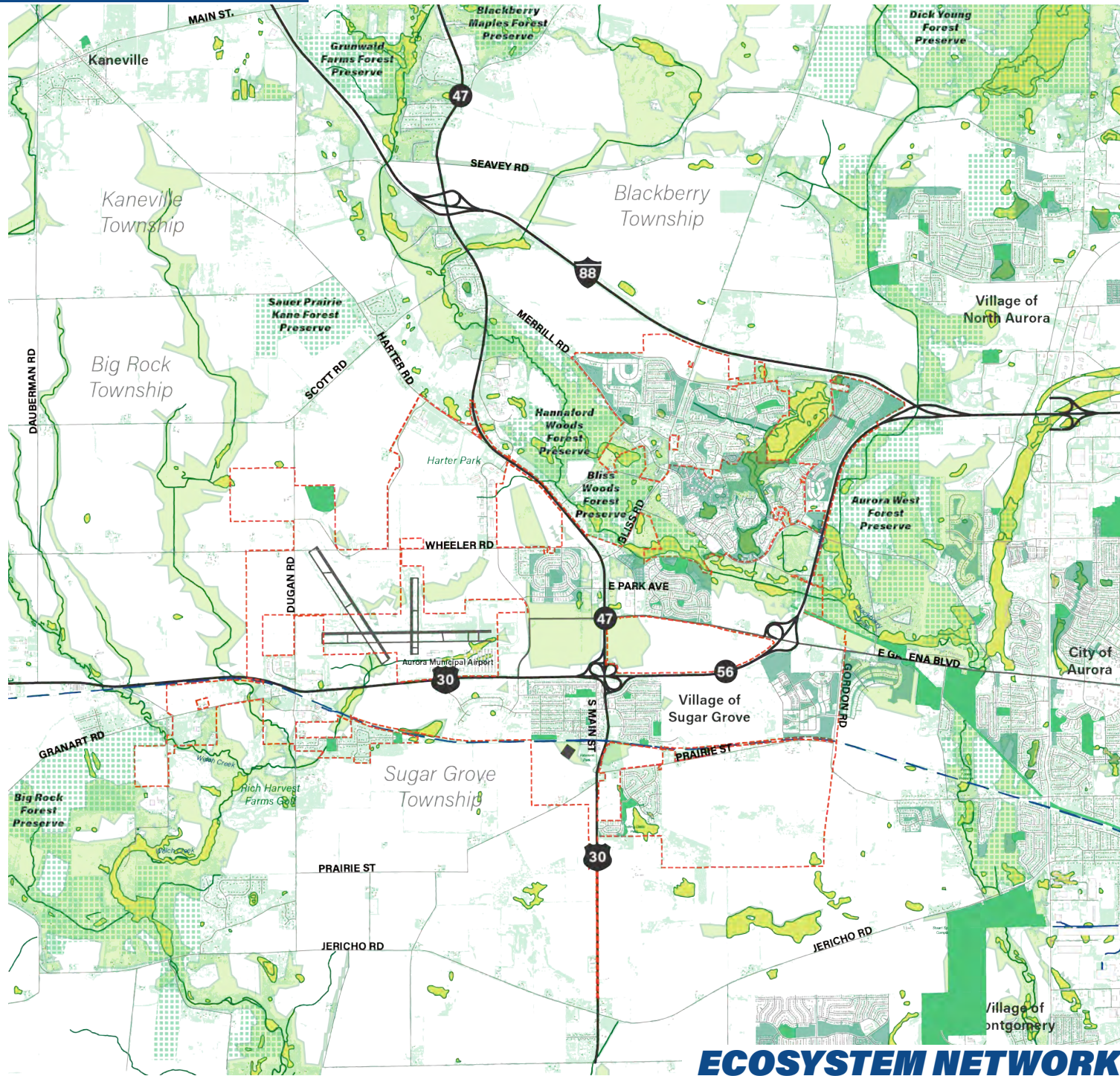


Figure 19: Projected climatic conditions using RCP models
Source: Wuebbles, D., J. Angel, K. Petersen, and A.M. Lemke (Eds.), 2021: An Assessment of the Impacts of Climate Change in Illinois. The Nature Conservancy, Illinois, https://doi.org/10.13012/B2IDB-1260194_V1.

EXISTING CONDITIONS



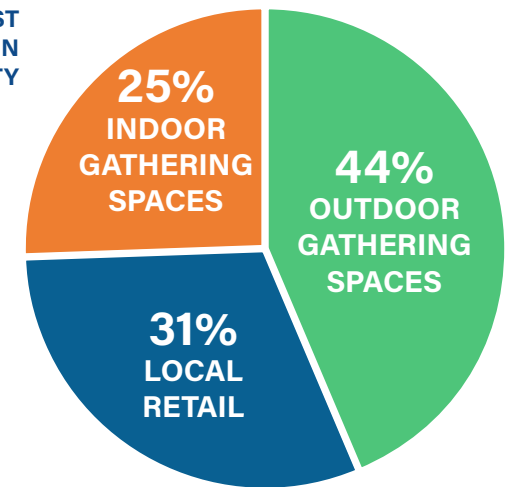
- Forest Preserve
- Surface Water
- Wetland
- Park/Recreational Area
- Natural Area
- Tree canopy
- Green Infrastructure Vision

(Current proposal from Chicago Wilderness; not existing)

Figure 20: Ecosystem network
Source: Kane County, Illinois;
Chicago Wilderness



SURVEY RESPONDENTS MOST
IMPORTANT COMPONENTS IN
CREATING A COMMUNITY



ECOLOGICAL FEATURES

ECOSYSTEM NETWORK

The village contains many ecological features such as forests preserves, wetlands, and rivers. When connected, this tapestry is referred to as an ecological corridor which provides environmental benefits such as:

- Improved air quality
- Bank stabilization
- Groundwater recharge
- Improved water quality
- Reduced soil erosion
- Reduced flooding
- Increased wildlife habitat

The village is bisected by an ecological corridor made up of Bliss Woods Forest Preserve, Aurora West Forest Preserve, and

Culver Forest Preserve (see figure 20). There are also 15 dedicated parks managed by the village including:

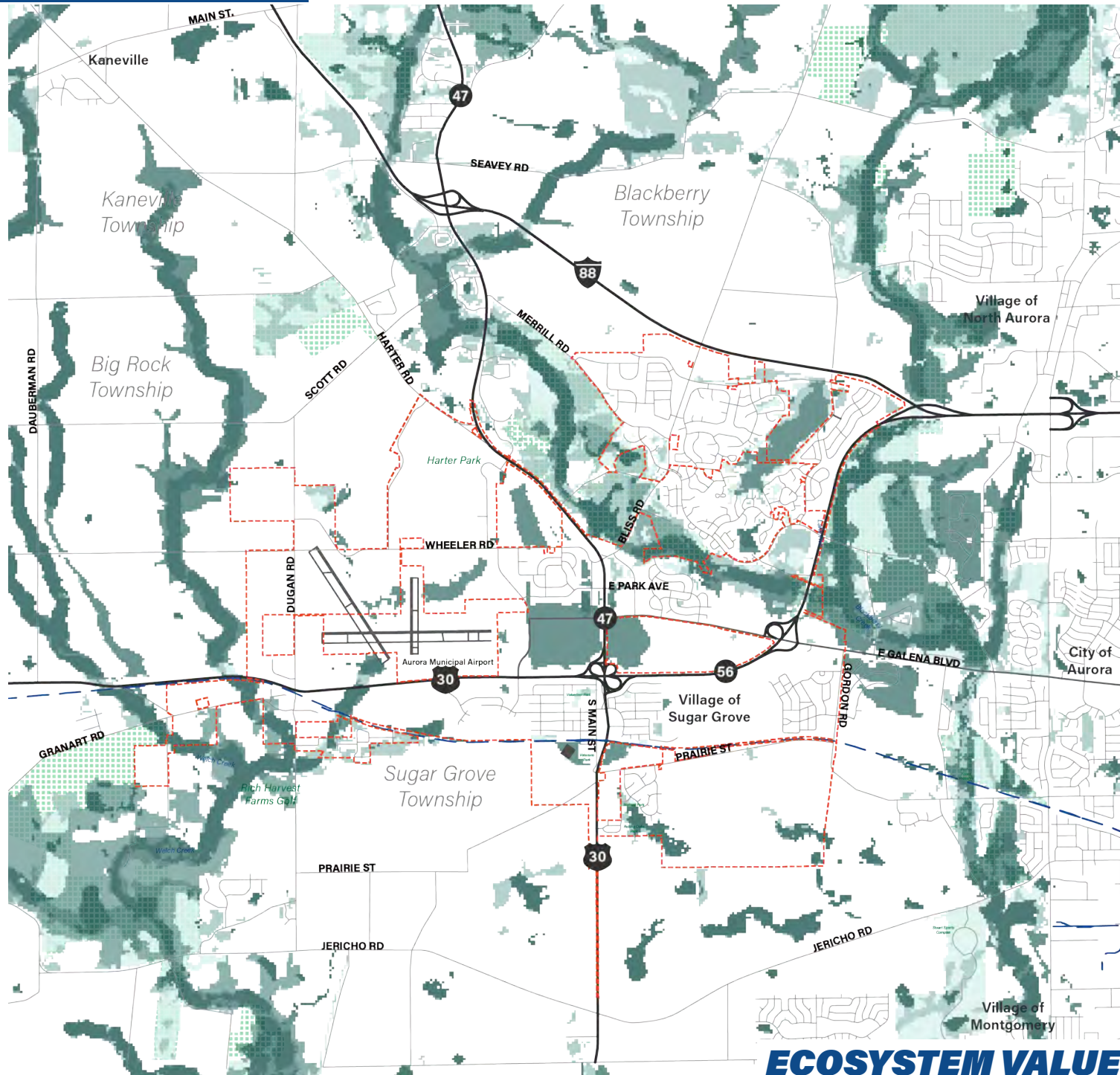
- Belle Vue Park
- Black Walnut Park
- Carson Slough Park
- Chelsea Park
- Dugan Park East
- Dugan Park West
- Harter Community Park
- Keck Park
- Mallard Park
- McDole Park
- Rolling Oaks Park
- Sugar Grove Sports Complex
- Volunteer Park
- Walnut Woods
- Windsor Point Park

These parks equate to 7.4 accessible park acres per 1,000 residents. This number is below the recommended 10 acres per 1,000 residents as recommended by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). There are also opportunities within these parks and open spaces to further promote ecological services through additional tree plantings, green stormwater infrastructure, and reduction of impervious surfaces.

Some of these actions have already taken place at parks such as Belle Vue, Dugan Park West, Harter Community Park, and the Sugar Grove Sports

Complex where native plantings, natural protected wetlands and stormwater improvements have been implemented. These practices are showcased within the Dugan Park West Stormwater Project, which aims to remove invasive plant species, reinforce native plantings for bank stabilization, and use seasonally prescribed burns for control.

EXISTING CONDITIONS



\$0-\$10 \$2014/ac/year

\$10-\$1,500

\$1,500-\$4,500

\$4,500-\$11,250

\$11,250-\$49,155

*Value represents the combined economic value of four ecosystem services: Water Flow Regulation/ Flood Control, Water Purification, Ground water Recharge and Carbon Storage.

Figure 21: Ecosystem value
Source: Kane County, Illinois;
Chicago Wilderness; Chicago
Metropolitan Agency for Planning



ECOLOGICAL BENEFIT

Natural ecosystems such as those traversing Sugar Grove, Kane County, and the region at large are valuable resources. According to the CMAP *Green Infrastructure Vision 2.3 Ecosystem Service Valuation*, these ecosystems and the natural features and habitats provide a myriad of services to the community including but not limited to:

- Water regulation/flood control
- Water purification
- Groundwater recharge
- Carbon Storage
- Native Flora and Fauna
- Recreation and Ecotourism
- Air Purification
- Microclimate Moderation
- Pollination
- Property value increase

CMAP estimated dollar amounts for water regulation/ flood control, water purification, groundwater recharge, and carbon storage through a careful analysis (Allen, Varela, Weber, and CMAP, 2014). The aggregate economic value of these services was mapped to spatially represent the benefits of each system, as shown in figure 21. Currently, forest

preserve areas, stream corridors and the area north of the Route 47/Route 30 intersection have significant value. The function of the forests, prairies, wetlands, stream corridors, and other landscape within Sugar Grove can be measured as an economic benefit to communities when considered holistically.

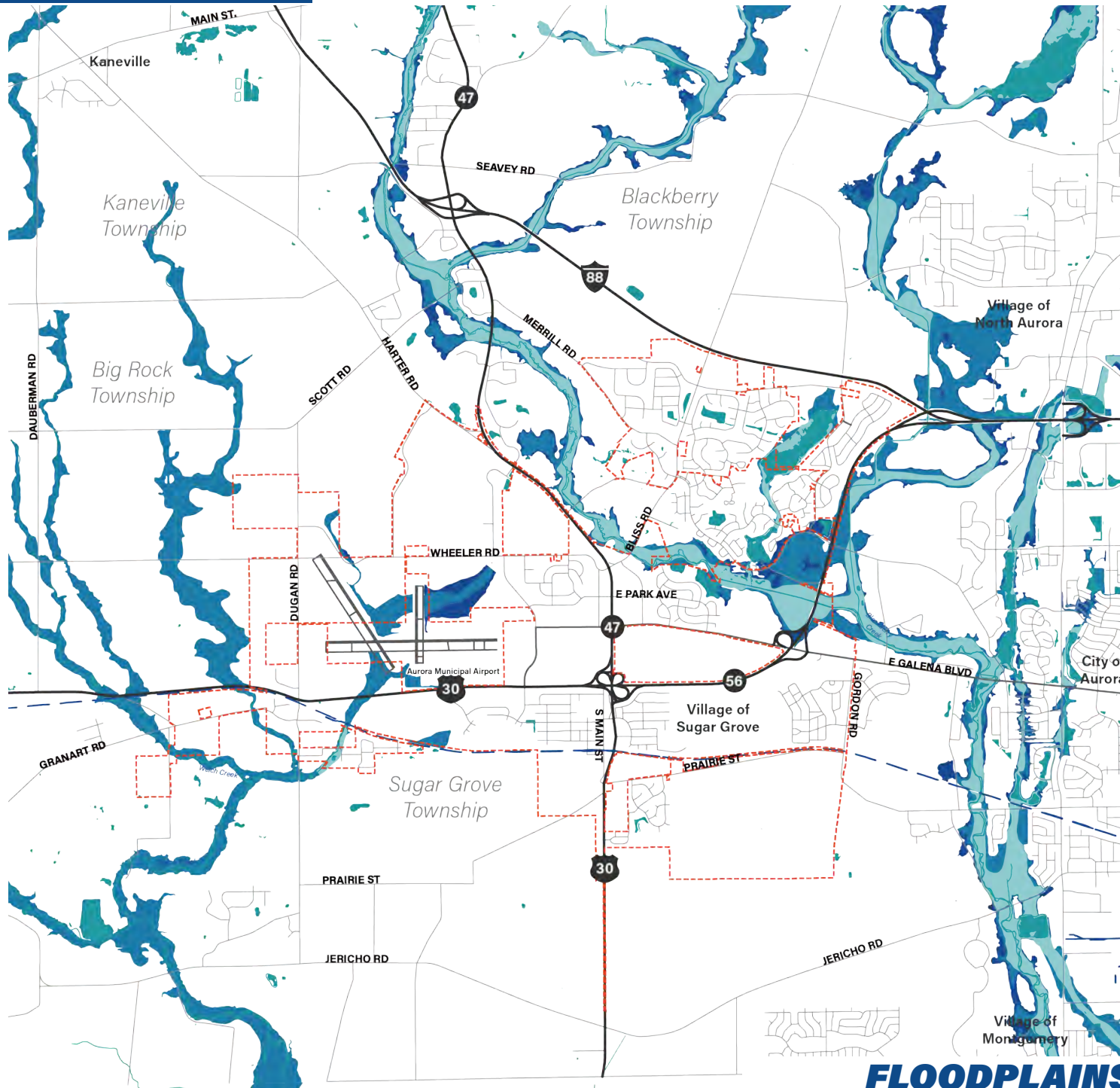


Natural grasses along roadways throughout Sugar Grove



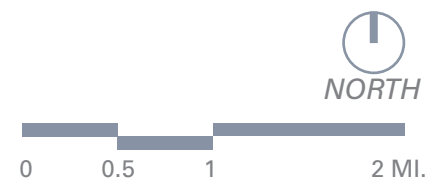
Forested, wet area north of Prestbury neighborhood

EXISTING CONDITIONS



- Village Boundary
- Floodway
- 100-Year Flood
- 500-Year Flood
- Surface Water

Figure 22: Floodways
Source: Kane County, Illinois





The neighborhood of Prestbury

FLOODING

The large amount of development within the region's floodway and floodplain has altered the natural flow of water and rate at which it infiltrates the ground. This same development area along Blackberry Creek is also regarded as having the highest ecological value in the village.

Parts of the Aurora Municipal Airport are also located with the floodway. As seen in Figure 22, portions of the village have a higher rate of susceptibility to floods, which is projected to increase into the future with larger, more frequent storm events. The village is located in the Fox River Basin and divided between

the Blackberry Creek and Big Rock and Welch watersheds. These creeks ultimately flow to the Gulf of Mexico after connecting with the Illinois and Mississippi rivers.

The Blackberry Creek watershed is 32 miles in length and drains nearly 48,000 acres into the Fox River making it a major tributary (see figure 23). The segment of the Fox River that Blackberry Creek flows into was assessed by Illinois EPA to be non-supportive for aquatic life, fish consumption, and primary contact uses. Most of the soils in the village have a moderate runoff potential with some swaths of very poorly drained soils, primarily at the west and east extents.

The Big Rock and Welch watershed is 68 stream miles in length and drains nearly 70,000 acres. Similar to the Blackberry Creek watershed, this is a major tributary to the Fox River and has similar characteristics to contamination. With development in floodways and floodplains, large areas of agricultural land use, and projected increase in large storm events, the village is highly susceptible to flooding, soil loss, and contributing to contamination of waterways downstream.

Water quality is also a primary consideration when it comes to flooding events and stormwater retention capacities. As flooding events increase in scale and frequency, water sources in some areas (particularly areas where the aquifer is most shallow) will become more susceptible to contamination. See the Water Supply and Demand Conditions report in the appendix of this document to learn more.

RESILIENCE

According to the Nature Conservancy's *Resilient and Connected Landscapes for Terrestrial Conservation*, a site's resilience score estimates its capacity to maintain species

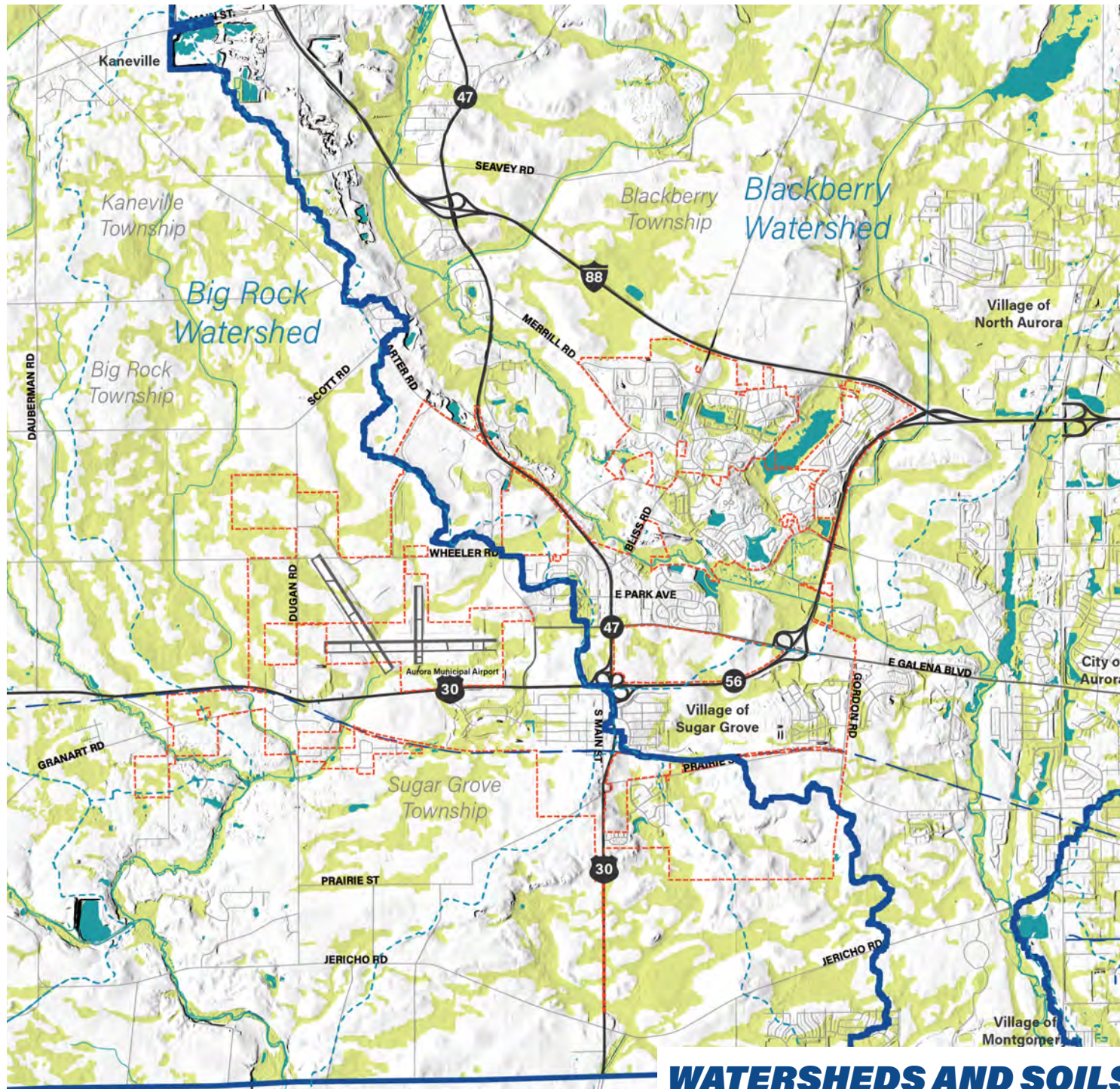
diversity and ecological function as the climate changes. It was determined through a methodology of evaluating the site's local connectedness and landscape diversity (Anderson, Barnett, Clark, Prince, Olivero Sheldon, and Vickery, 2016). While forest preserves and stream corridors surrounding the village support the most resiliency for terrestrial habitat, Sugar Grove's pockets of natural landscapes offer nodes of higher resiliency within the village limits (see figure 24). These nodes support biodiversity and perform ecological services for the community. These areas should consider being protected as the village continues to develop.

REFERENCES IN THIS SECTION

Allen, W., Varela, J., Weber, T., CMAP Technical Committee. *Green Infrastructure Vision 2.3 Ecosystem Service Valuation*. (Chicago: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, 2014).

Allen, W., Varela, J., Weber, T., CMAP Technical Committee. *Green Infrastructure Vision 2.3 Ecosystem Service Valuation*. (Chicago: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, 2014).

EXISTING CONDITIONS

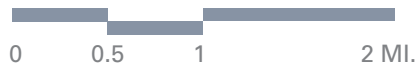
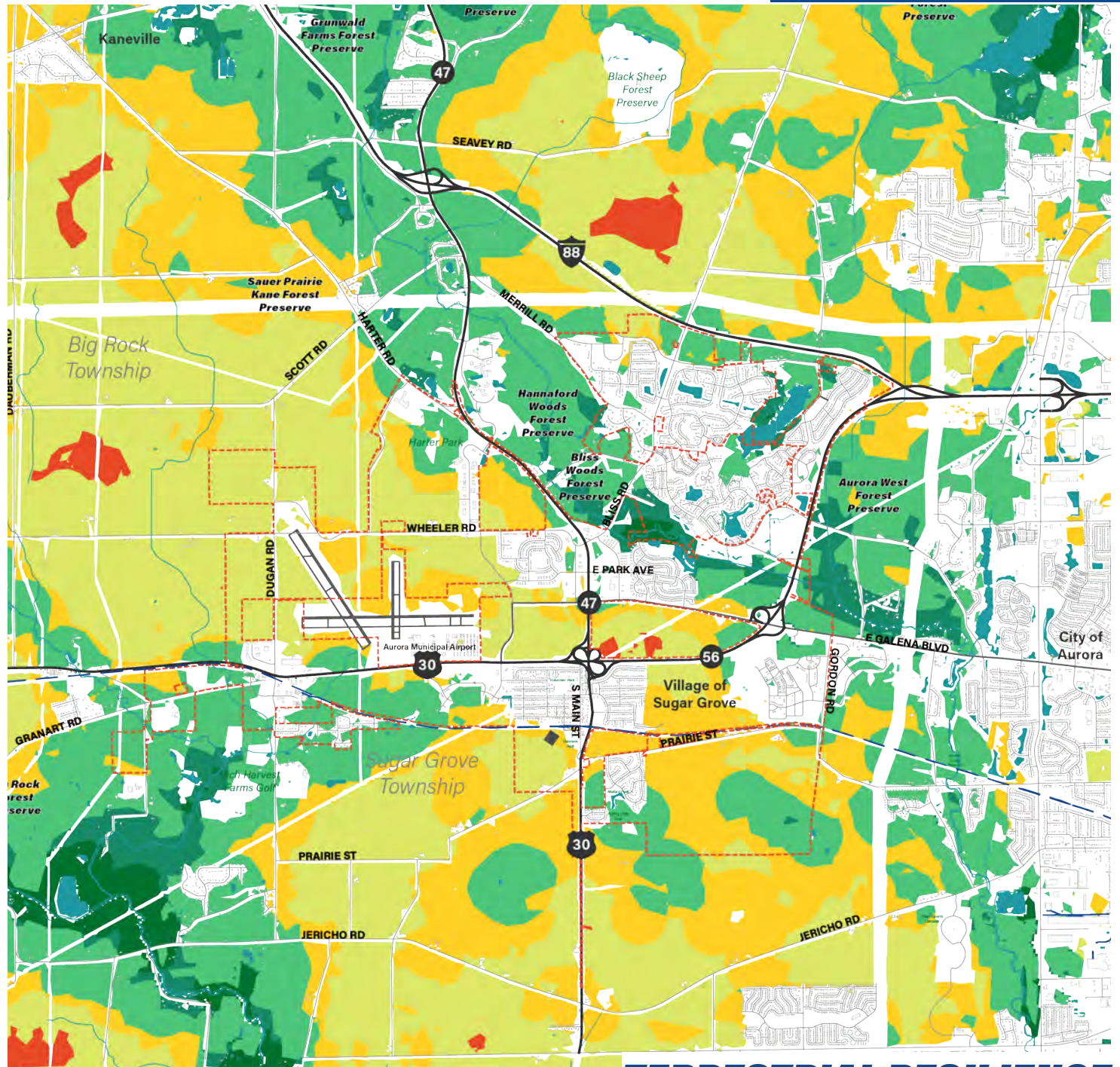


WATERSHEDS AND SOILS



- More Resilient
- Slightly More Resilient
- Average/Median Resilient
- Slightly Less Resilient
- Less Resilient
- Least Resilient

Figure 24: Terrestrial resilience
Source: The Nature Conservancy; Kane County, Illinois



WATER IN SUGAR GROVE

The Village of Sugar Grove relies primarily on deep sandstone aquifers for its drinking water, with supplemental water available from shallow aquifers. In some areas of the Chicago region, deep sandstone aquifers are being depleted at a rate that exceed their ability to recharge. This will require the village and many other communities to implement water conservation strategies and seek alternative water supplies to reduce their reliance on this source.

The Sugar Grove Water Supply and Demand Report, included in the appendix of this document, was compiled by CMAP and informed by the 2020 Sugar Grove Source Water Protection Plan. The report provides an analysis of the village's drinking water supply and projected future demand relative to existing water protection and management measures as well as the state of its supporting infrastructure. Key findings from this assessment should be taken into consideration as the Village develops its comprehensive plan.

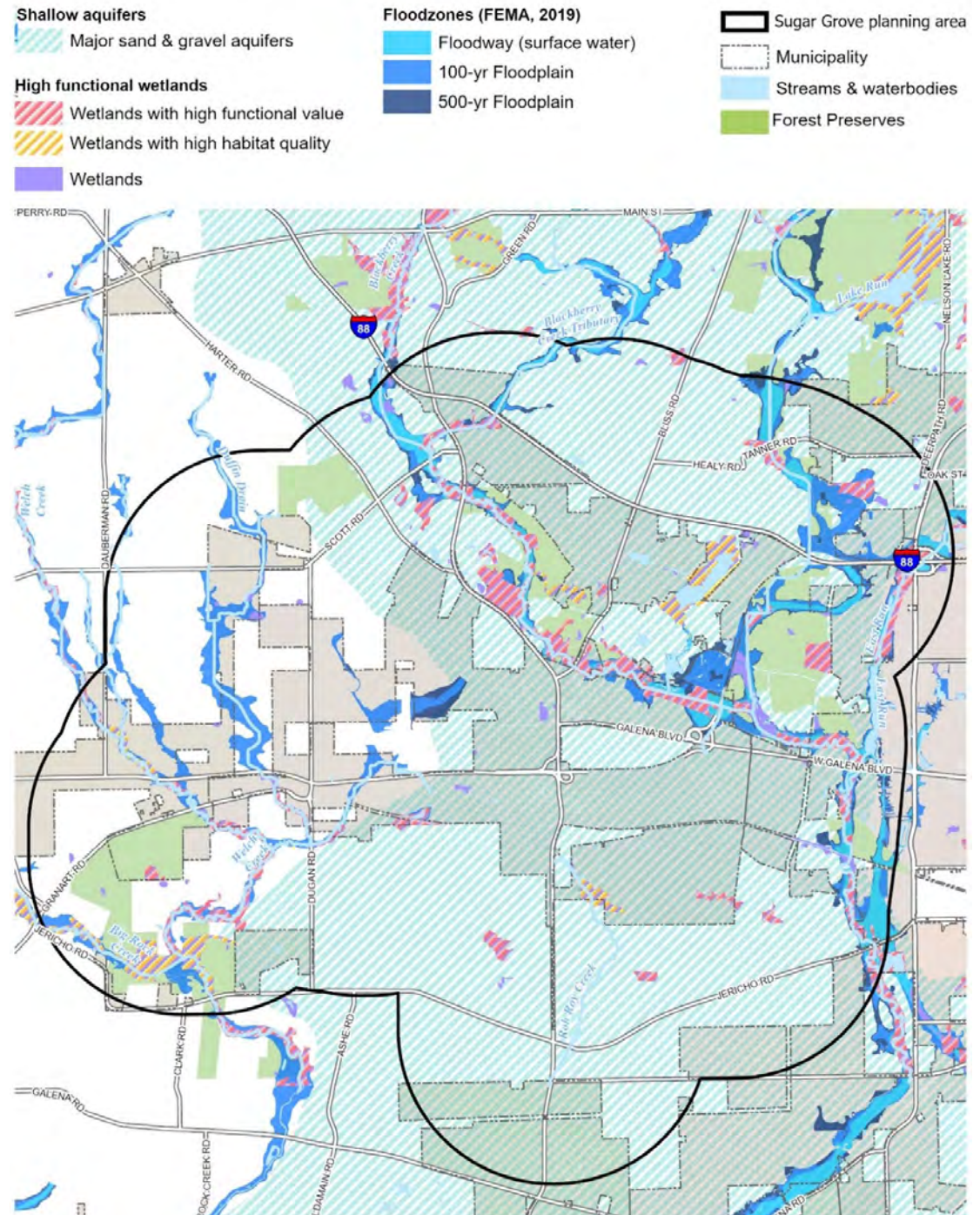


Figure 25: Water resources
Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

DRINKING WATER

The Village primarily relies on the Ironton-Galesville sandstone aquifer, which together with the St. Peter Sandstone aquifer, makes up the greater Cambrian-Ordovician Sandstone system found throughout northeastern Illinois, sitting 600 to 2,000 feet below the surface.

Historically, it has been considered a productive aquifer (i.e., stores and transmits water easily), and therefore, a common target of deep wells in northeastern Illinois. To supplement groundwater from the deep sandstone aquifer, the Village also relies on shallow aquifers, which include several discontinuous layers of unconsolidated glacial sand and gravel deposits within approximately 300 ft of land surface, and the underlying shallow bedrock aquifer, primarily comprised of weathered dolomite and shale (Figure 27). In order to protect water quality, the Village uses well setbacks and

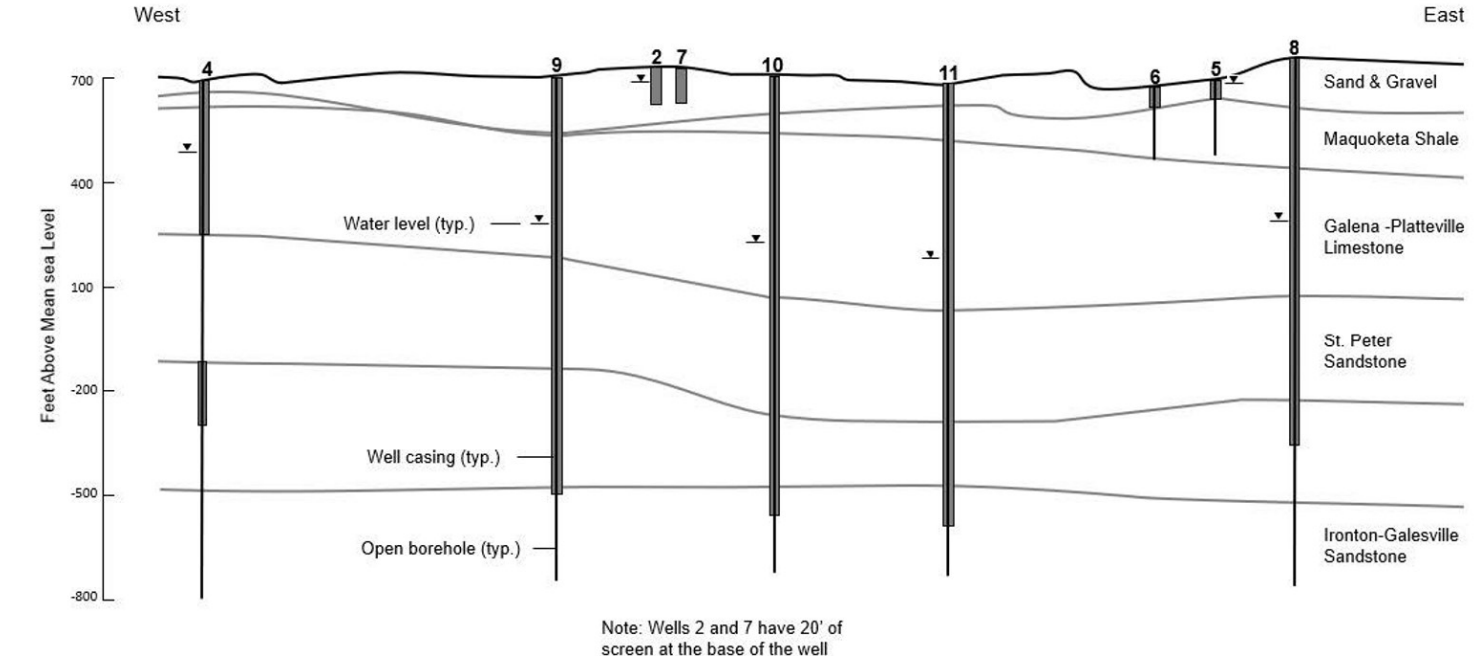


Figure 26: Water level and major aquifers: The Village of Sugar Grove relies on a mix of deep and shallow groundwater aquifers for its drinking water..

Source: Sugar Grove Water Protection Plan, 2020

wellhead protection areas to limit contamination and restrict specific land uses within these zones.

Although the Village's distribution system appears to have enough capacity to meet long term demand, it may not be able to adequately deliver water relative to the location of future development, without revisions to existing water storage or infrastructure

improvements. Current estimates project that water pumpage from public wells and private industrial and commercial wells could increase by as much as 51 percent by 2050.

A decline in regional groundwater levels raises concerns about the ability of deep sandstone wells to continue to provide the necessary quantity and quality of water to

meet local water demands. These concerns highlight the need for increased water conservation and protection to ensure supply.

4

HOUSING

LIVING IN SUGAR GROVE

As a community incorporated in the mid-20th Century at the outskirts of a metropolitan region, the Village of Sugar Grove was initially developed in a wave of suburbanization sweeping American cities. Today, the vast majority of the village's housing stock was developed as part of one of several single-family subdivisions.

The village's oldest neighborhood is located west of Route 47 and south of Route 30. Over the last several decades, newer subdivisions have been developed in the central, northeast, and southeast portions of the village. These developments offer a variety

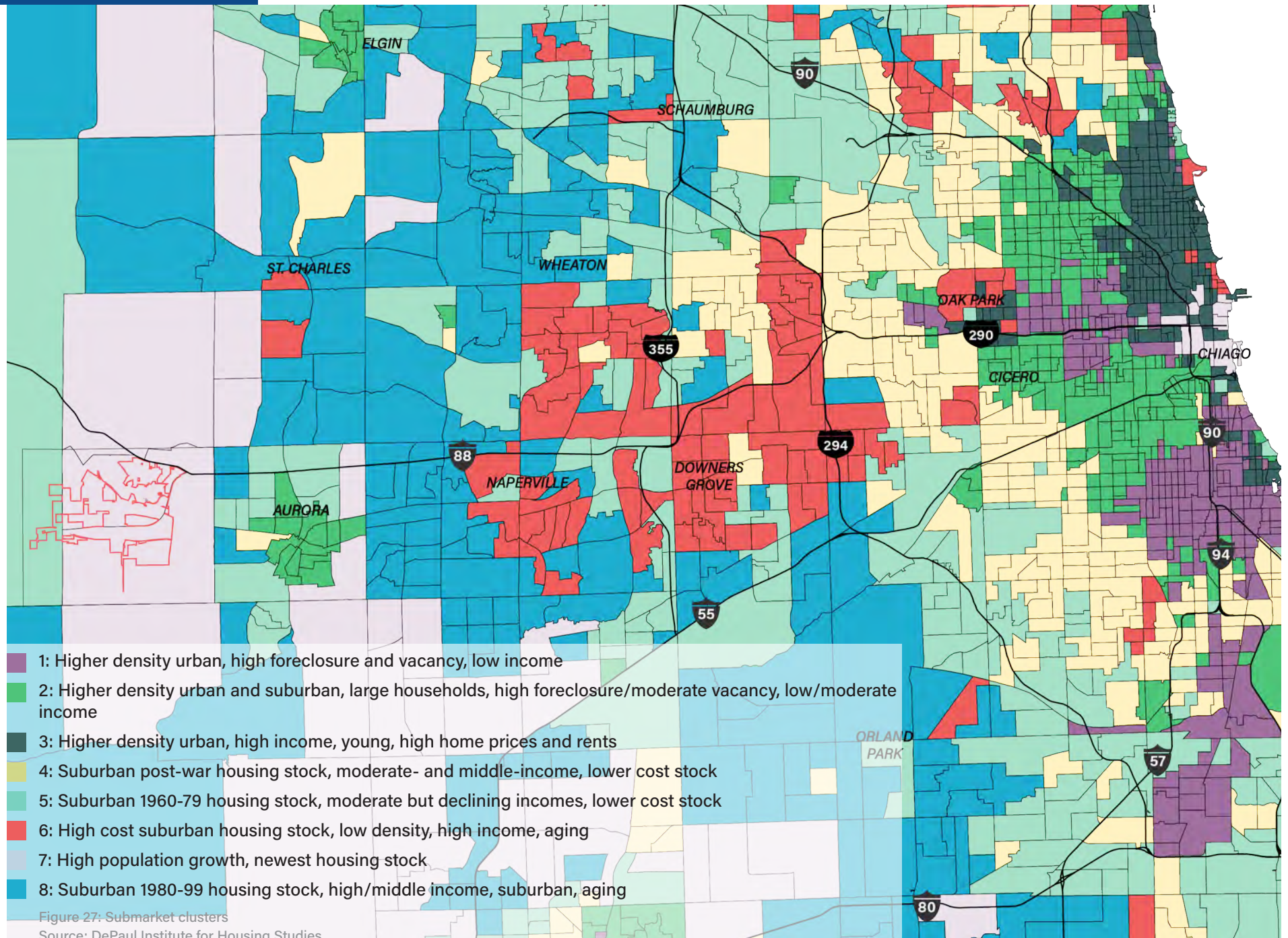
of housing densities and scales within the single-family and duplex product types.

Overall, Sugar Grove is home to many more homeowners than renters, with about 90% of the occupied housing stock being owner-occupied and approximately 10% being occupied by renters. Housing vacancy is among the lowest in the region. At about 1% vacancy, Sugar Grove has one-ninth the vacancy of the northeast Illinois region and just one-tenth of the larger State's vacancy rate.

"NEI Region":
Northeastern
Illinois Region (NEI)

	Sugar Grove	NEI Region	Illinois
2021 Total Households	3,105	3,136,860	4,838,545
2021 Average Household Size	2.86	2.65	2.56
2021 Total Family Households	79.6%	66.0%	64.4%
2021 Average Family Size	3.23	3.32	3.19
2026 Total Households	3,819	3,140,715	4,849,536
2026 Average Household Size	2.86	2.64	2.55
2026 Total Family Households	79.3%	65.8%	64.1%
2026 Average Family Size	3.23	3.32	3.19
2021 - 2026 Households: Compound Annual Growth Rate	2.8%	0.02%	-0.1%

Table 1: Projected housing growth rates
Source: ESRI, Village of Sugar Grove



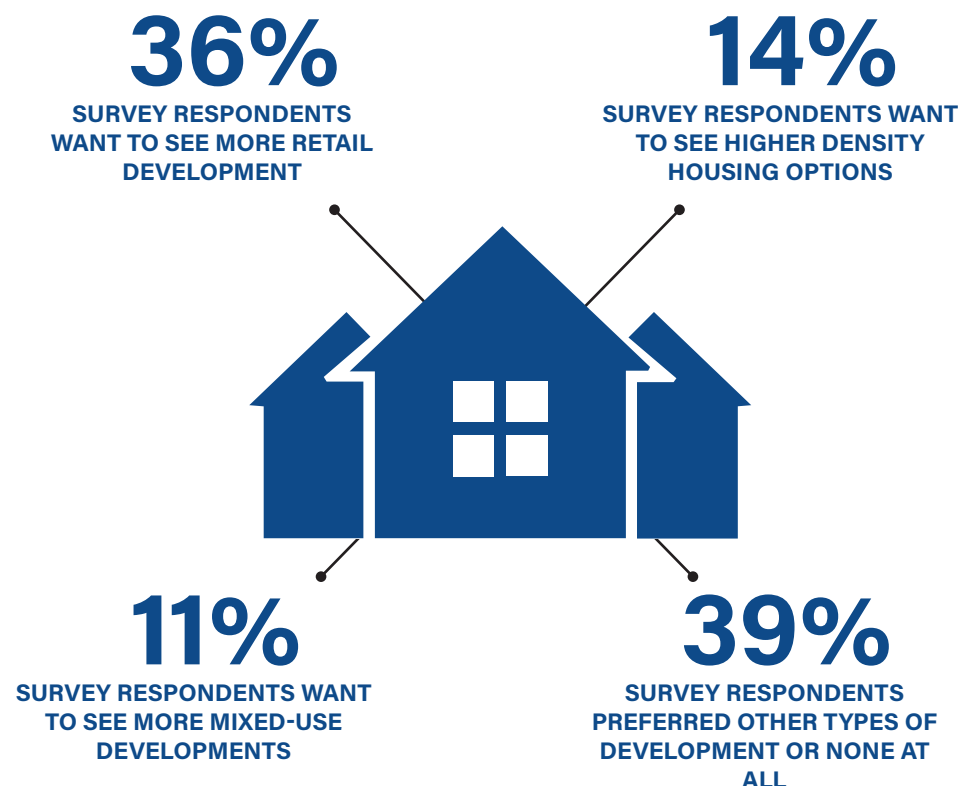
LOCAL SUBMARKET

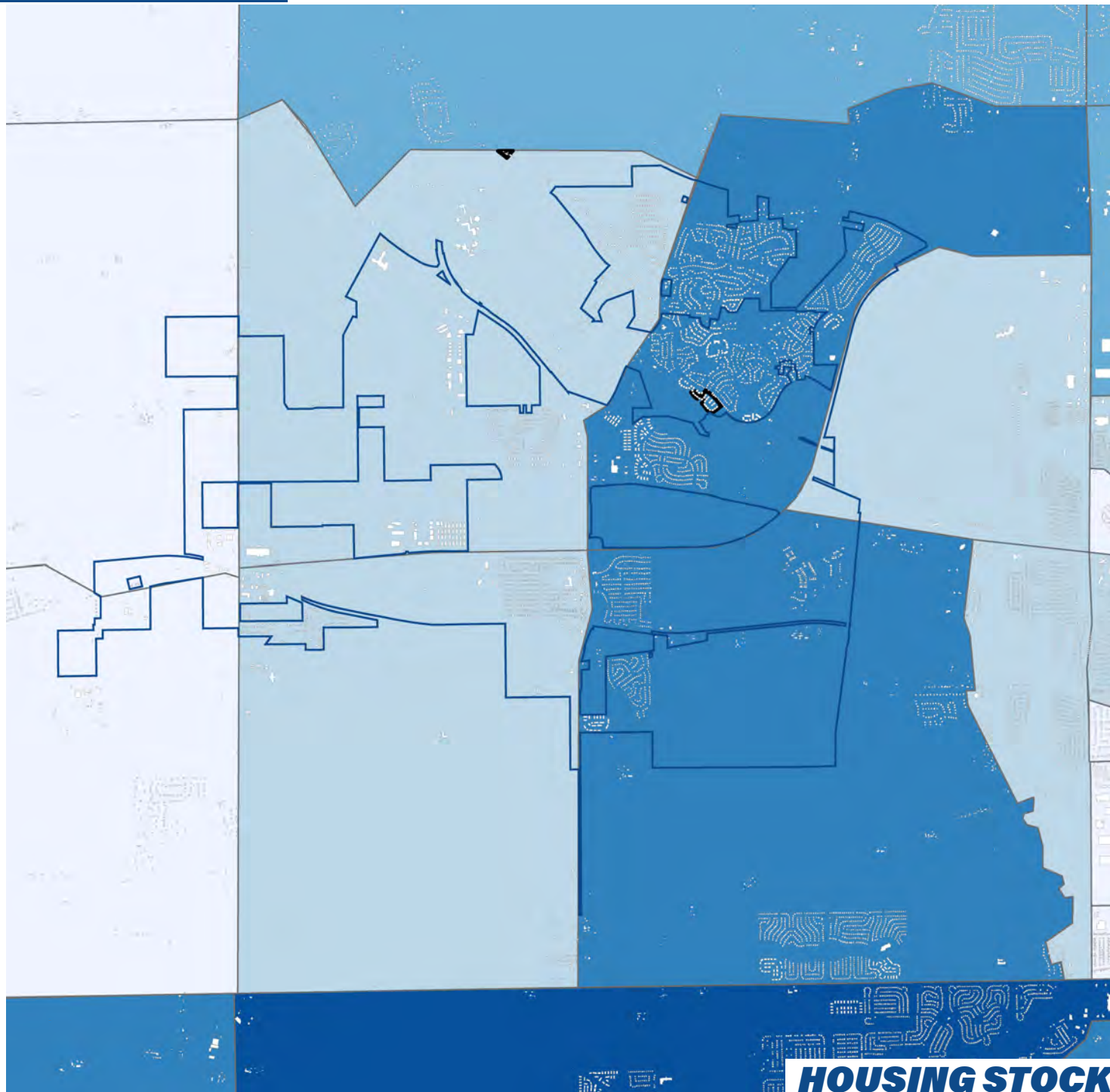
The Village of Sugar Grove falls into the DePaul Institute for Housing Studies' submarket seven within the northeastern Illinois region. This submarket is defined by rapid population growth since the turn of the millennium and is the fastest growing submarket of all eight. Most communities designated as a seven on this scale are exurban, late-stage developments with newer housing stock, though several areas in and around Chicago's central city are also designated as submarket seven.

This submarket presents inherent problems when describing outer suburban or exurban communities,

as their growth is often unmatched with investments in multi-modal transportation options when they exist so far outside the region's urban core. These communities also tend to focus on a small range of more land-consumptive housing products, such as single-family subdivisions, that are inaccessible or unaffordable to many existing and prospective community members.

<https://www.regionalhousingsolutions.org/submarket/7#issue1>





- 0 - 556 Housing Units
- 557 - 947
- 947 - 1,698
- 1,699 - 3,709
- 3,710 - 6,287

Values represented by census block.

Figure 28: Housing stock

Source: ESRI



HOUSING STOCK

HOUSEHOLDS

There are currently 3,374 housing units in Sugar Grove. Of the total number of housing units, 3,328, or 99% of housing units in the village are occupied with only 46, or 1% housing units, vacant. Sugar Grove's vacancy rate is lower than the region's vacancy rate of 9% and the state's vacancy rate of 10%.

Housing tenure in Sugar Grove is heavily skewed toward owner-occupied units, representing 90.2% of all units, while renter-occupied units account for 9.8% of all housing units. Housing tenure in both the region and state is also skewed more towards owner-occupied units, with 58.518% of housing units within the region and 66.28% of housing units within the state being owner-occupied.

The region and state have a significantly higher prevalence of rental occupied units than in Sugar Grove, with 32.7% and 33.72% of all units being renter occupied.

A basic method of evaluating housing supply and demand is to assess housing need based on population growth and housing supply. Table 3 projects the total number of housing units needed in Sugar Grove in order to maintain the current rates of household population, average household size and occupancy rates. Based on the population projections from CMAP, Sugar Grove will need to add 3,177 housing units by 2050. This equates to an average of 176 units being added per year through 2050.

"NEI Region":
Northeastern Illinois
Region (NEI)

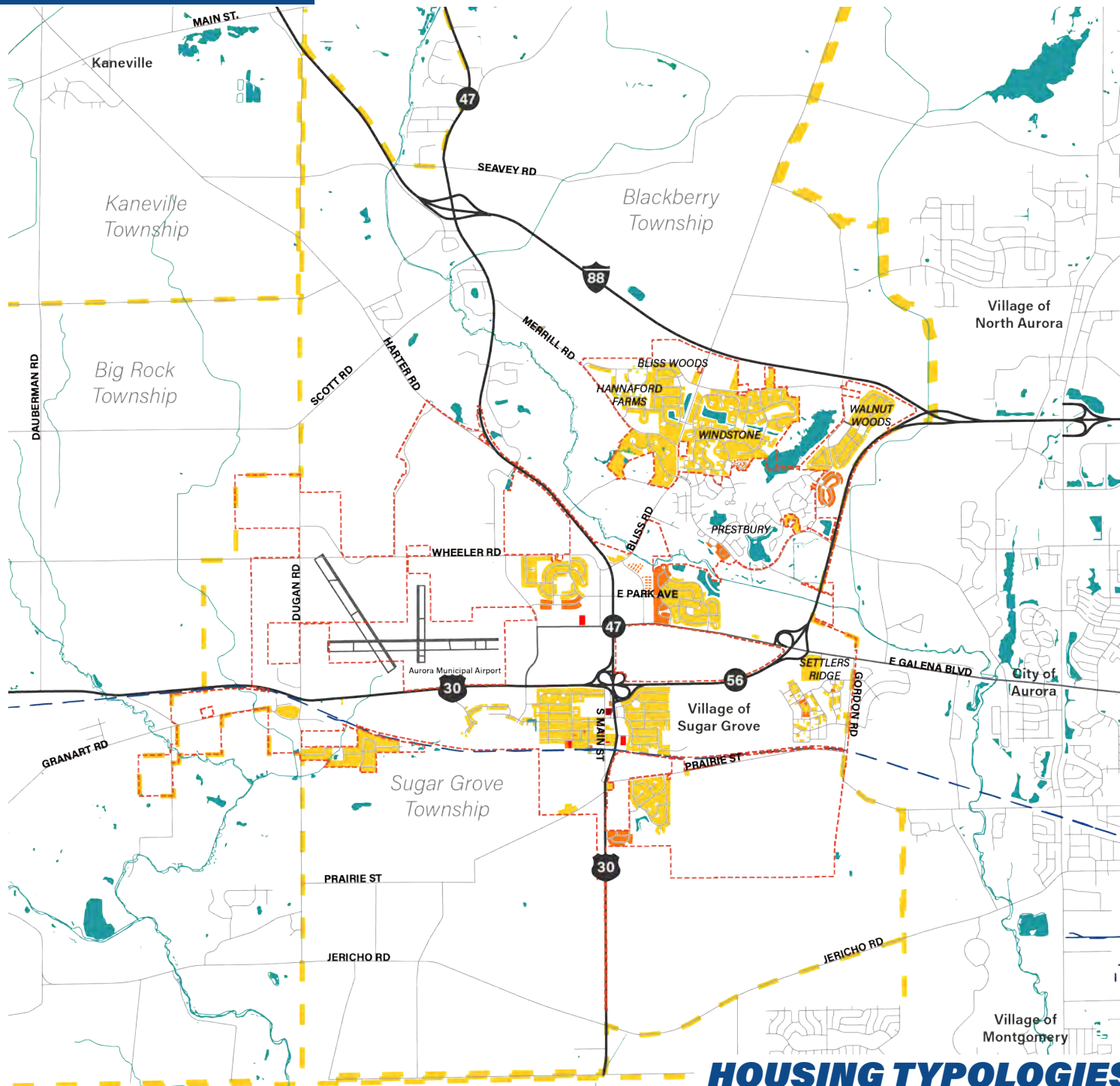
	Sugar Grove	NEI Region	Illinois
Total Housing Units	3,374	3,439,859	5,393,698
Occupied Housing Units	3,328	3,136,859	4,872,667
Vacant Housing Units	46	302,999	521,031
Owner Occupied Housing	90.2%	58.5%	66.3%
Renter Occupied Housing	9.8%	32.7%	33.7%

Table 2: Regional housing distribution comparisons
Source: ESRI, Village of Sugar Grove, Illinois

Year	Population Estimate	Housing Units Needed	Total Units Needed After 2021	Production Needed Annually
2030	11,515	4,026	652	65
2040	13,776	4,817	1,443	144
2050	18,735	6,551	3,177	318

Table 3: Projected population and housing needs
Source: ESRI, Village of Sugar Grove, Illinois

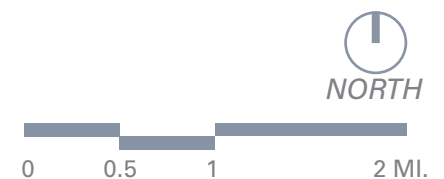
EXISTING CONDITIONS



- Village of Sugar Grove Boundary
- - - Planning Area Boundary
- Single Family
- Single-Family Attached
- Apartment Complex
- Urban Mix

Figure 29: Housing typologies
 Source: Village of Sugar Grove, IL; Kane County, Illinois; Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

HOUSING TYPOLOGIES



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

The majority of housing in Sugar Grove is newer, with approximately 56% of all existing housing units built after the 1990s and approximately 80% of all housing units built after the 1980s. Housing within both the region and state is older, with 14% of all housing within the region and 25% of all housing within the state built after the 1990s. As of 2022, the median age of housing within Sugar Grove is 21 years old, while the median age of housing within the region and state is 54 years old, respectively.

Sugar Grove's housing stock primarily consists of single-family homes, with approximately 74% of

all housing being detached single-family housing and 17% being attached single-family housing. Only 9% of housing within Sugar Grove contains two or more units in the same structure. Both the region and state have a similar housing mix, with the majority of housing consisting of detached and attached single-family structures. The region and state, however, have a higher number of housing structures containing two or more units. Within the region 42% of all housing units have two or more units, while 33% of housing units within the state have 2 or more units.

"NEI Region":
Northeastern Illinois
Region (NEI)


Housing Age	Sugar Grove	NEI Region	Illinois
Units Built in 2014 or later	6.60%	1.10%	1.10%
Units Built in 2010-2013	0.40%	1.20%	1.40%
Units Built in 2000-2009	49.00%	11.30%	11.00%
Units Built in 1990-1999	23.80%	10.90%	11.00%
Units Built in 1980-1989	7.20%	9.10%	9.00%
Units Built in 1970-1979	4.00%	14.10%	14.60%
Units Built in 1960-1969	3.60%	11.70%	11.60%
Units Built in 1950-1959	3.60%	13.00%	12.60%
Units Built in 1940-1949	0.00%	6.00%	6.30%
Units Built in 1939 or earlier	1.80%	21.70%	21.40%
Median Year Structure Built	2001	1968	1968

Table 4: Regional housing age comparison
Source: ESRI, Village of Sugar Grove, Illinois



AFFORDABILITY

As of 2021, the median home value in Sugar Grove is \$298,502, higher than the median home value in both the region (\$301,496) and state (\$225,007). The majority of homes in Sugar Grove are valued between \$250,000 and \$400,000, with the highest number of homes valued between \$300,000 and \$400,000. When comparing the distribution of home values in Sugar Grove with home values in the region and state, Sugar Grove has significantly less housing valued below \$200,000. Only 10% of all housing in Sugar Grove is valued below \$200,000, compared to 20% of housing in the region and 43% of housing in the state.



Home Value	Sugar Grove	"NEI Region": Northeastern Illinois Region (NEI)	
		Less Supply	More Supply
Less than \$50,000	0.37%	1.70%	5.0%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	0.37%	2.70%	11.42%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	1.37%	5.50%	12.64%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	8.13%	10.00%	14.32%
\$200,000 - \$249,999	13.89%	14.90%	13.23%
\$250,000 - \$299,999	26.68%	14.90%	11.82%
\$300,000 - \$399,999	36.04%	22.40%	15.06%
\$400,000 - \$499,999	6.36%	10.80%	6.57%
\$500,000 - \$749,999	4.86%	10.20%	6.00%
\$750,000 - \$999,999	0.67%	4.00%	2.05%
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	0.00%	1.30%	1.10%
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	1.27%	0.70%	0.32%
\$2,000,000 or greater	0.00%	0.80%	0.47%
2021 Median Home Value	\$298,502	\$301,496	\$225,007
2021 Average Home Value	\$334,086	\$374,724	\$280,598

Table 5: Regional home value and supply comparison
Source: ESRI

5

ECONOMY

SUGAR GROVE'S ECONOMY

While Sugar Grove is a small community mostly composed of residential neighborhoods, there are several concentrated areas of business activity serving a local and regional market. These commercial areas consist mainly of local retail, services, and small industrial operations.

Retail, food and beverage, and service businesses in the area largely serve Sugar Grove residents and residents of neighboring communities with retail and service establishments along major roadways. The other large segments of local economic activity include farming and agriculture and manufacturing and

warehouse business. The latter businesses are largely associated with the Aurora Municipal Airport.

While small businesses can be found scattered throughout Sugar Grove, most economic activity is concentrated in four major zones: Southwest of the intersection of Route 56 and Route 47, the intersection of Route 30 and Dugan Road (southwest of the airport), north of the intersection of Route 47 and East Galena Boulevard, and along Heartland Drive (northeast of the airport).



Commercial development along Route 47 in Sugar Grove



Airplane hangars at the Aurora Municipal Airport in Sugar Grove



A MAJORITY OF SURVEY
RESPONDENTS FEEL THE BIGGEST
PROBLEM WITH THE VILLAGE IS THE
LACK OF AVAILABLE
**LOCAL SERVICES
AND RESOURCES**

EMPLOYMENT

Table 6 illustrates the distribution of employment within Sugar Grove, the northeast Illinois region, and Illinois, by occupation. The top five industries of employment for residents within Sugar Grove are Professional Services, Health Care, Manufacturing, Education, and Finance/Insurance. While the distribution of employment in Sugar Grove is mostly similar to the region and state, Sugar Grove has the higher instance of employment within the Professional Service industry of three geographies.

"NEI Region":
Northeastern Illinois
Region (NEI)

Industry by Occupation	Sugar Grove	NEI Region	Illinois
Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing/Hunting	2.68%	0.02%	0.83%
Mining/Quarrying/Oil & Gas Extraction	0.00%	0.00%	0.16%
Construction	7.62%	5.20%	5.69%
Manufacturing	10.04%	11.20%	11.67%
Wholesale Trade	5.99%	3.20%	2.86%
Retail Trade	8.33%	10.20%	10.01%
Transportation/Warehousing	5.28%	6.30%	6.58%
Utilities	1.60%	0.50%	0.80%
Information	1.28%	2.00%	1.57%
Finance/Insurance	8.74%	6.00%	6.18%
Real Estate/Rental/Leasing	1.47%	2.00%	1.68%
Professional/Scientific/Tech Services	11.75%	9.20%	8.79%
Management of Companies/Enterprises	0.06%	0.20%	0.11%
Admin/Support/Waste Management Services	2.60%	4.60%	3.67%
Educational Services	9.59%	8.90%	9.46%
Health Care/Social Assistance	10.65%	13.00%	14.66%
Arts/Entertainment/Recreation	1.51%	2.30%	1.44%
Accommodation/Food Services	2.88%	7.00%	5.38%
Other Services (exlc. Public Administration)	2.71%	4.70%	4.30%
Public Administration	5.22%	3.20%	4.17%
Civilian Population Age 16+ in Labor Force	4,825	4,262,473	6,568,107

Highest % of employment

Lowest % of employment

Table 6: Regional employment by type comparison
Source: ESRI



73%

**SURVEY RESPONDENTS FEEL
DINE-OUT OPTIONS ARE
MISSING FROM THE VILLAGE**

BUSINESSES

As of 2021, there are 277 businesses in Sugar Grove. When distributed by industry, the most prominent business type in Sugar Grove is Service-related businesses, accounting for 41.88% of all businesses. The second and third most prominent business types in Sugar Grove are Retail Trade and Construction, accounting for 14.80% and 9.75% of all businesses, respectfully. Table 7 illustrates a distribution of businesses by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code within the Sugar Grove, the northeastern Illinois region, and the State of Illinois.

"NEI Region":
Northeastern Illinois
Region (NEI)

Business by SIC Code	Sugar Grove	NEI Region	Illinois
Agriculture/Mining (01-14)	2.53%	1.50%	2.07%
Construction (15-17)	9.75%	6.00%	6.04%
Manufacturing (20-39)	7.22%	4.00%	3.72%
Transportation (40-47)	1.44%	2.70%	3.00%
Communication (48)	0.72%	0.90%	0.91%
Utility (49)	0.00%	0.20%	0.33%
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	6.14%	3.60%	3.54%
Retail Trade (52-59)	14.80%	20.10%	20.37%
Banks (60-61)	2.53%	2.00%	2.23%
Securities Broker (62)	2.17%	1.60%	1.52%
Insurance (63-64)	1.81%	2.10%	2.12%
Real Estate/Holding (65-67)	2.17%	4.00%	3.61%
Service (70-89)	41.88%	43.10%	42.11%
Government (91-97)	3.25%	1.60%	3.09%
Unclassified Establishments (99)	3.61%	6.70%	5.35%
Total Businesses (01-99)	277	275,676	422,044

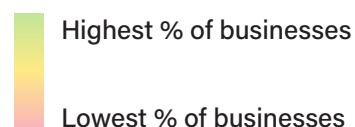


Table 7: Regional business by type comparison
Source: ESRI

VILLAGE REVENUE

As a predominantly residential community, the vast majority of equalized assessed value (EAV) in the Village of Sugar Grove comes from residential property. Residential property comprises 88% of the total EAV for the Village of Sugar Grove in fiscal year 2022, while all other properties, including industrial, commercial, farm, and railroad together comprise the remaining 12% of assessed value for property taxation.

While not unusual for bedroom communities like Sugar Grove, such an unbalanced distribution of local property tax revenue can create issues for a community as it looks to grow, provide sustainable high quality services to residents,

and weather regional and national economic and real estate fluctuations.

Residents of Sugar Grove would be well-served by future commercial and industrial growth within the community to increase both taxable property and capture more spending locally. With a more diversified tax base and new sources of revenue to further balance out revenue from residential property taxes, the village can continue to meet the needs of existing and future residents, keep local finances in the black, and thwart or minimize the need for future increases in residential property taxes to fund obligations and investments.

FY2020–2021 Village Revenue Breakdown

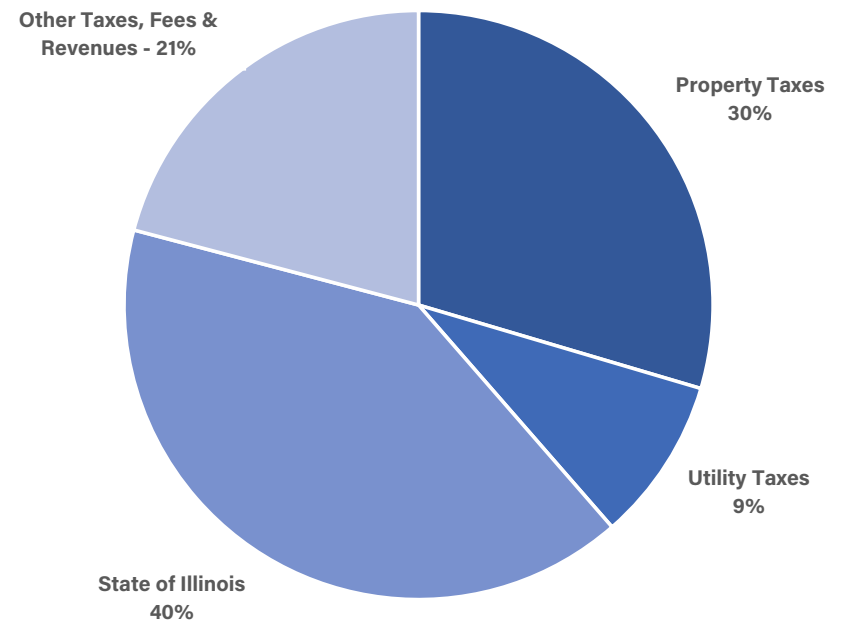


Figure 30: Village Revenue Breakdown
Source: Village of Sugar Grove, Illinois

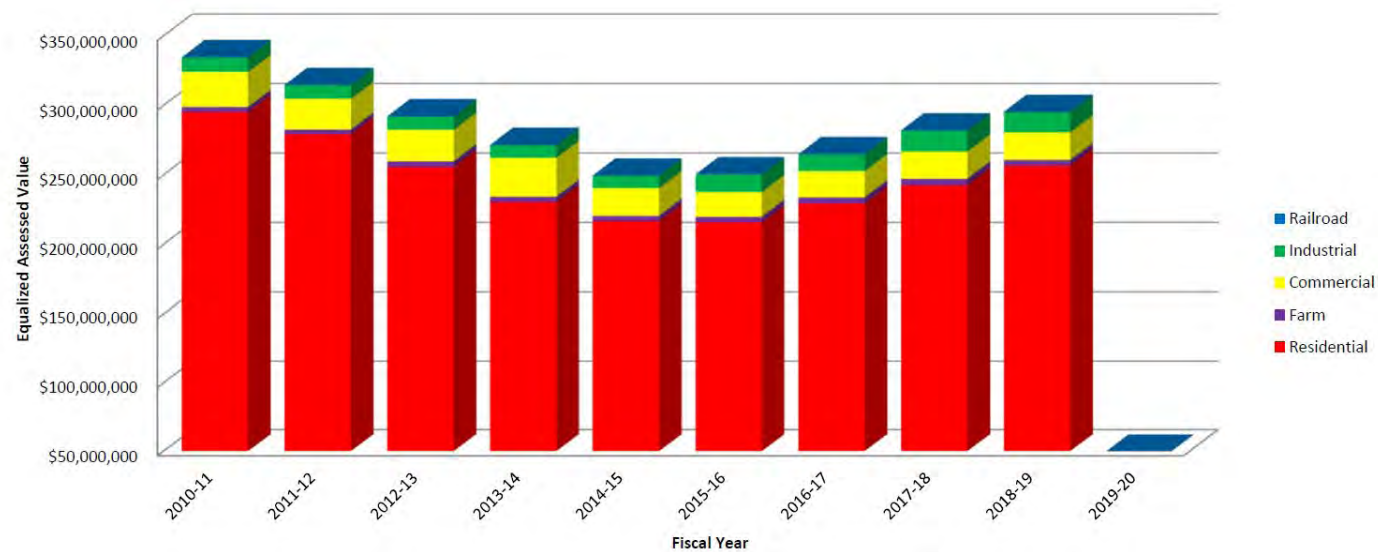


Figure 31: Equalized assessed value
Source: Village of Sugar Grove, Illinois

FULL LIST OF CITED WORKS

Allen, W., Varela, J., Weber, T., CMAP Technical Committee. 2014. *Green Infrastructure Vision 2.3 Ecosystem Service Valuation*. Chicago: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, 2014. [CW GIV 2.3 Ecosystem Service Valuation Final Report \(illinois.gov\)](#)

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APPENDIX



APPENDIX A

2022 WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND REPORT





February 2022

Village of Sugar Grove Water Supply and Land Use Planning Study

Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan Existing Conditions Report

Below is a summary of the Village of Sugar Grove's water source and distribution system, information on the community's water quantity and quality, historic water use trends, water protection measures, and land use and conservation practices. As detailed in the scope of work, CMAP requests Design Workshop integrate these findings into the Existing Conditions Report that is being prepared for the Village as a step in the comprehensive planning process.

Introduction

The Village of Sugar Grove is a small community in the southern part of Kane County that relies primarily on deep sandstone aquifers for its drinking water, with supplemental water available from shallow aquifers. In some areas of the Chicago region, deep sandstone aquifers are being depleted at a rate that exceed their ability to recharge. This will require the Village and many other communities to implement water conservation strategies and seek alternative water supplies to reduce their reliance on this source. In the future, the Village may need to supplement more of its future drinking water supply from other sources, such as shallow aquifers and surface waters. However, shallow aquifers are often susceptible to contamination because of their proximity to the land surface. Pollutants from lawns, agriculture, commercial and industrial businesses, as well as roads can infiltrate the ground and impact water quality, especially in areas with high permeability.

Water supply and demand considerations should be included in a comprehensive plan because land use planning and development decisions influence the amount of water used, the supply and quality of water sources, and the cost of maintaining water service. Understanding how planning decisions impact drinking water provision is essential for maintaining a long-term supply and a well-functioning utility. Protecting and managing the quality of the groundwater supply is also critical. Groundwater is an important natural resource

that not only provides water for drinking and household uses, but also supports ecosystem health and industrial, agricultural, and commercial activities throughout Illinois.

Key Findings

- Sugar Grove primarily relies on the deep sandstone aquifer for their water source. **Portions of the Sugar Grove planning boundary are in areas where the sandstone aquifers are at risk of becoming desaturated before 2030.** Sugar Grove and many other villages of its size are contributing to the collective over-withdrawal, and therefore, can have a role in ensuring future supply. The Village will need to continue to promote water conservation and protection of existing water resources.
- With continued population and employment growth projected for Sugar Grove, water demand will continue to increase. Current estimates project that **water pumpage from public wells and private industrial and commercial wells could increase by as much as 51 percent by 2050.**
- **Increased drought conditions caused by climate change may also pose significant risks to the Village's water supply, especially if the Village relies more on shallow aquifers in the future.** Shallow aquifers are more vulnerable to drought conditions as their recharge is tied to local precipitation patterns. Additional measures should be taken in the Village to prepare for potential droughts, including developing a drought preparedness plan.
- **Although the Village's distribution system appears to have enough capacity to meet long term demand, it may not be able to adequately deliver water relative to the location of future development, without revisions to existing water storage or infrastructure improvements.** This is particularly relevant if future development occurs in the northern parts of the Village. Sugar Grove should consider future development in areas where its system can function in its current capacity to reduce the need and cost of expensive infrastructure investments. The Village should also continue to promote water conservation to help reduce the cost of expensive infrastructure capacity expansion and protect existing water resources.
- Sugar Grove's shallow aquifers are susceptible to contamination, such as increased chloride concentrations from road salt. **In order to protect water quality, the Village uses well setbacks and wellhead protection areas to limit contamination and restrict specific land uses within these zones.** In addition, the Village has proactively identified the need for further measures in their Source Water Protection Plan.

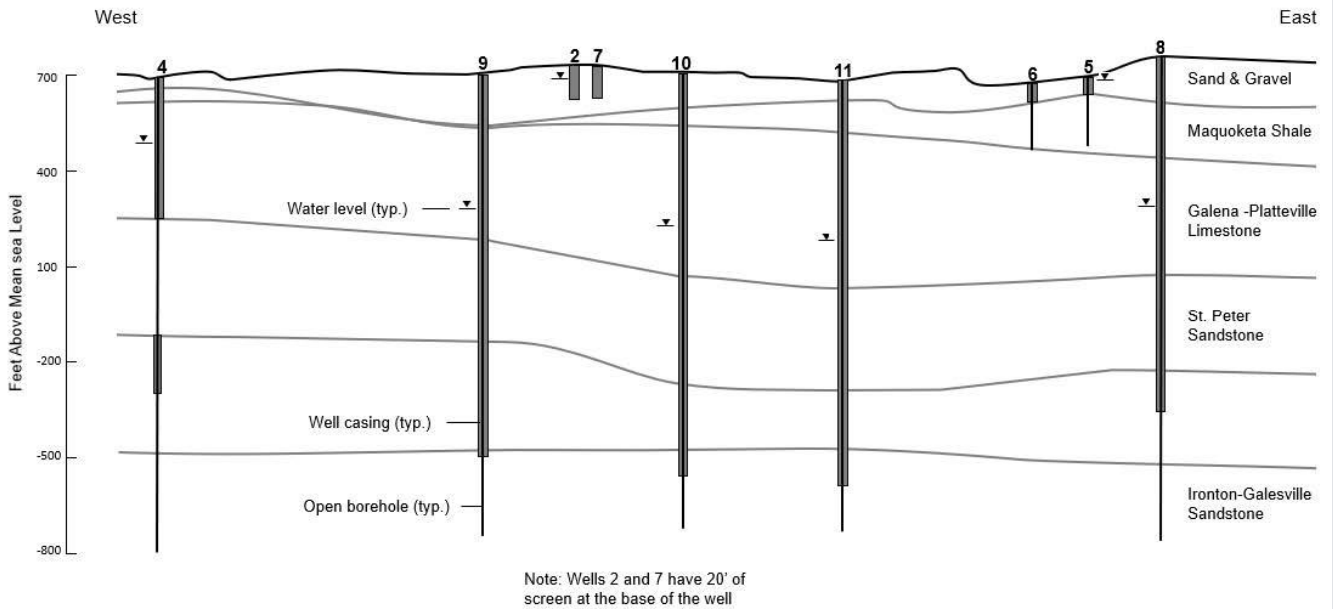
- **The Sugar Grove Water Authority (SGWA) plays a unique role in protecting groundwater resources in Sugar Grove township, which includes a large portion of the planning area.** The SGWA encourages coordination between municipal governments in studying and protecting groundwater resources and has authority oversight of water shortages that may arise within the Township.

Sugar Grove's drinking water source

The Village of Sugar Grove relies on a mix of deep and shallow groundwater aquifers for its drinking water. The Village primarily relies on the Ironton- Galesville sandstone aquifer, which together with the St. Peter Sandstone aquifer, makes up the greater Cambrian-Ordovician Sandstone system found throughout northeastern Illinois, sitting 600 to 2,000 feet below the surface.¹ Historically, it has been considered a productive aquifer (i.e., stores and transmits water easily), and therefore, a common target of deep wells in northeastern Illinois. To supplement groundwater from the deep sandstone aquifer, the Village also relies on shallow aquifers, which include several discontinuous layers of unconsolidated glacial sand and gravel deposits within approximately 300 ft of land surface, and the underlying shallow bedrock aquifer, primarily comprised of weathered dolomite and shale (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Cross section of the major aquifers in Sugar Grove

¹ Meyer, S.C., Roadcap, G.S., Lin, Y., and Walker, D.D. (2009). *Kane County Water Resources Investigations: Simulation of Groundwater Flow in Kane County and Northeastern Illinois* (Contract Report 2009-07). Prepared by Illinois State Water Survey. Retrieved from <https://www.isws.illinois.edu/pubmore/ISWSCR2009-07/ISWSCR2009-07.pdf>



Source: Sugar Grove Source Water Protection Plan 2020

The Village of Sugar Grove has eight active community water supply wells. The majority (five) of the active wells are deep wells that reach the sandstone aquifer at depths ranging from 1,442 feet to 1,475 feet. One of these deep wells (No. 4) is an inactive well only used for emergencies. The Village also relies on three shallow wells, two of which reach the sand and gravel aquifer at approximately 100 feet below the surface, and one that reaches the shallow bedrock aquifer at approximately 200 feet below the surface (Figure 1). One of the Village's shallow wells (No. 6) is used for emergencies only. All of Sugar Grove's shallow wells are not used on a daily basis. In addition to the eight active wells within the Village limits, there is one low producing well that was abandoned.

Portions of the collar counties of northeastern Illinois, which are home to a growing share of the region's population, are relying on groundwater resources, particularly deep sandstone aquifers, to support new development. Consequently, deep sandstone aquifers are being depleted at a rate that exceed their ability to recharge, resulting in a net drawdown of groundwater. At a regional scale, the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) has determined that portions of the sandstone aquifers are being overdrawn at twice the natural recharge rate, meaning that pumping levels exceed the sustainable yield.² As withdrawals continue to "mine" the water stored in the aquifer, some areas are at risk of becoming desaturated or dewatered before 2030.³ A decline in regional groundwater levels raises concerns about the ability of deep

² Abrams, D.B. (2017). *The Illinois Groundwater Flow Model: New Applications and Insights for Northeastern Illinois*. Presentation to the Northwest Water Planning Alliance Technical Advisory Committee on October 24, 2017.

³ Mannix, D.H., Abrams, D.B., Roadcap, G.S., Hadley, D.R., and Kelly, W.R (2017). *Groundwater Depletion in Chicago's Southwestern Suburbs*. ISWS Miscellaneous Publication No. 208. Retrieved from <https://www.isws.illinois.edu/pubdoc/MP/ISWSMP-208.pdf>

sandstone wells to continue to provide the necessary quantity and quality of water to meet local water demands. These concerns highlight the need for increased water conservation and protection to ensure supply. Switching to other sources of water is not without its challenges. Regulatory, technological, and financial considerations may limit a community's ability to use alternate water sources. Cost, infrastructure capacity, as well as political, and legal complexity are other variables at play. Gaining access to Lake Michigan, for example is not always possible, because there are limits to the amount of water the state can withdraw, which may limit some communities' ability to access it. Access to the Fox and Kankakee Rivers is also challenging because it is regulated to ensure sufficient flows during drought conditions to protect aquatic life.⁴

With the region's population projected to grow, shallow aquifers and surface waters will likely have to be relied upon more in order to supplement sandstone aquifer resources and accommodate increased water demand. Shallow aquifers are often susceptible to contamination because of their proximity to the land surface. Pollutants from lawns, agriculture, commercial and industrial businesses, and roads can infiltrate the ground and impact water quality, especially in areas covered in coarse materials with high permeability, such as sensitive aquifer recharge areas (SARAs) or areas with sand and gravel material.

Although located deeper below the surface than sand and gravel aquifers, shallow bedrock aquifers are also prone to contamination. Recent research has revealed that shallow public water supply wells in Illinois are experiencing increasing trends in chloride and total dissolved solids concentrations.⁵ One study found that shallow aquifers in Kane County had chloride concentrations that exceeded secondary drinking water standards. Although chloride is non-toxic to humans, elevated levels make water unpotable due to the salty taste. Chloride is also corrosive to steel, so it has the potential to corrode pipes in water treatment and industrial plants. Because it imparts a salty taste to water and is corrosive, elevated chloride levels in drinking water supplies can lead to increased treatment costs.⁶ While more detailed studies in Illinois are needed, contaminants of emerging concern—like pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and microplastics—are a growing water quality issue. Understanding the impact of future land use and development on Sugar Grove's water quantity and quality is important for ensuring that the community has a reliable and sustainable supply of water into the future.

Deep sandstone aquifer

Water quantity

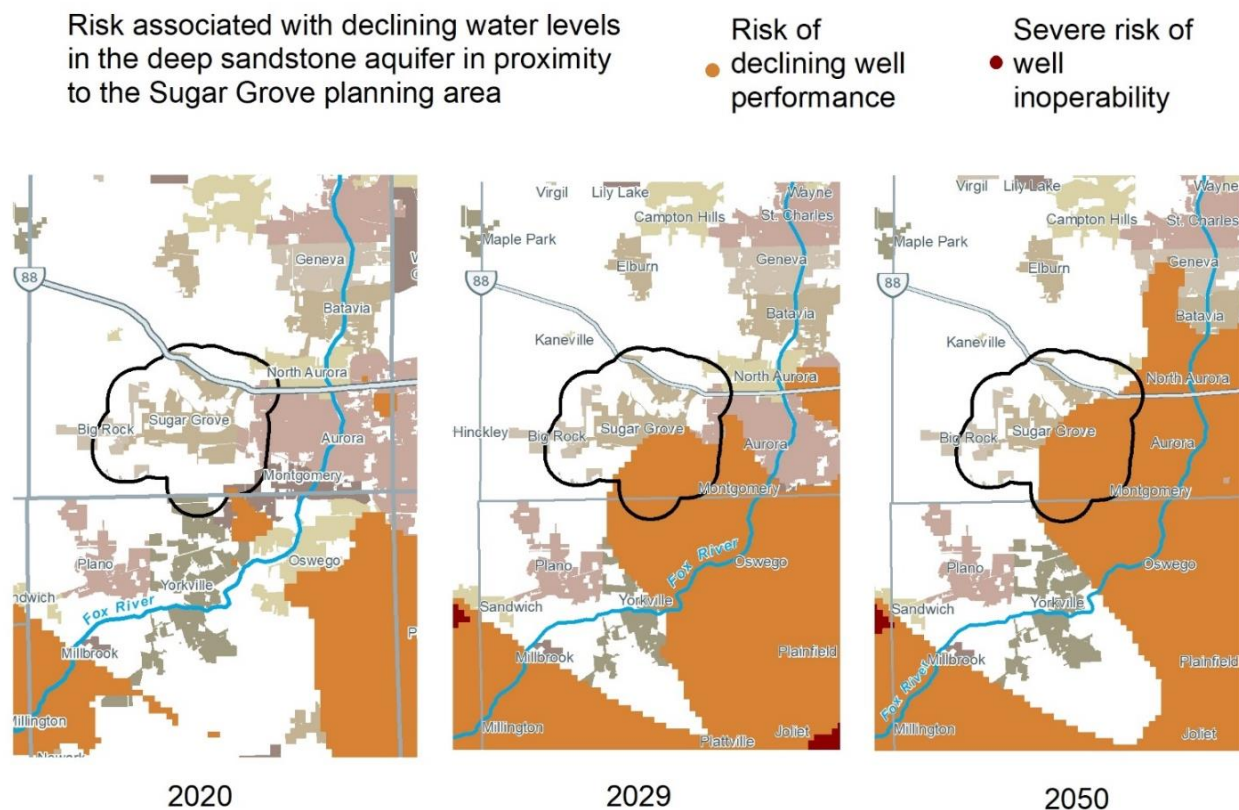
⁴ "7-Day 10-Year Flow Maps," Illinois State Water Survey, Prairie Research Institute, <http://www.sws.uiuc.edu/docs/maps/lowflow/background.asp>.

⁵ Kelly, W., Panno, S.V., and Hadley, D.R. (2012). *The sources, distribution, and trends of chloride in the waters of Illinois*. Retrieved from <https://www.isws.illinois.edu/pubdoc/B/ISWSB-74.pdf>

⁶ Kelly, W., D.R. Hadley, and Mannix, D... (2015). *Shallow Groundwater Sampling in Kane County, 2015*. Illinois State Water Survey Contract Report 2016-04, Champaign, IL

According to the Illinois Water Survey (ISWS), the deep sandstone aquifers in the southeastern portion of Kane County, which includes a portion of the Sugar Grove planning area, are at-risk of desaturation under pumping level conditions in the near future (Figure 2). Areas at risk of declining water levels will likely experience isolated problems during pumping and may move into the high-risk category with any new development in the region, including development in communities that are not currently at risk.⁷ Since predevelopment, the Sugar Grove township has seen between 300 to 600 foot decline in the sandstone aquifer's water levels due to regional and local withdrawals; however, the ISWS well monitoring network research found that there have been no disruptions to wells within the township that are open to the sandstone aquifer to date.⁸

Figure 2. Risk associated with declining water levels in the deep sandstone aquifer in proximity to the Sugar Grove planning area



Source: Illinois State Water Survey, 2020

⁷ Mannix, D.H., Abrams, D.B., Roadcap, G.S., Hadley, D.R., and Kelly, W.R. (2017). *Groundwater Depletion in Chicago's Southwestern Suburbs*. ISWS Miscellaneous Publication No. 208. Retrieved from <https://www.isws.illinois.edu/pubdoc/MP/ISWSMP-208.pdf>

⁸ Roadcap, G.S., Hadley, D.R., (2020) *Establishment of a Groundwater Monitoring Network in Sugar Grove Township, Kane County, IL*. ISWS. Retrieved from https://www.isws.illinois.edu/docs/default-source/groundwater-documents/sugar_grove_twp_letter_report_2020_final_publicversion.pdf?sfvrsn=123d1f2e_2

To better understand Sugar Grove’s water quantity issues, for the 2020 Source Water Protection Plan, the Village utilized a groundwater flow model to understand capture zone delineation of the Village’s water supplies. Understanding these flow mechanics is important because it can help determine the amount of water that is available and the location and rate at which it recharges, all of which can be used to balance demands and establish sustainable yields—rates at which communities can withdraw groundwater without depleting the source. Water conservation is an important component of ensuring that withdrawal of water from the Village’s deep sandstone wells does not exceed the aquifer’s ability to recharge.

Water quality

Given the location of Sugar Grove’s active water supply wells, the Illinois EPA has determined that they are not susceptible to direct contamination; however, there are potential sources of contamination present within the Sugar Grove planning area that could impact private wells and non-community wells—those servicing schools, factories, restaurants, and churches. Some of those contaminants are presented in Figure 5 in the *Water Quantity and Quality Protection Measures* section. In addition to potential external contaminants, one of Sugar Grove’s deep sandstone wells (No. 4) has radium levels that exceed regulatory standards; therefore, the well is available for emergency use only.

Shallow Aquifers

Water quantity

As deep sandstone aquifers continue to be at risk of depletion, withdrawals from the shallow aquifers are expected to increase both within Sugar Grove township and in Kane County and surrounding counties. Excessive drawdown in shallow aquifers can result in greater interference between wells, additional streamflow capture, and degradation of local surface water quality. To better understand water quantity trends in the area’s shallow aquifers, the ISWS and the Sugar Grove Water Authority (SGWA) established a groundwater monitoring network in 2017. Within the larger Sugar Grove Township, the Sugar Grove Water Authority (SGWA) gathers information about existing and future water supply, inspects wells, and encourages strategic coordination among municipal governments to ensure continued delivery of high-quality water. Additionally, the Water Authority has statutory authority oversight of water shortages that may arise within the Township. This means that the authority can establish limits or priorities on the use of water during periods of actual or threatened water shortage, in addition to providing conservation educational materials to residents of Sugar Grove Township.

The groundwater monitoring study jointly established by the ISWS and SGWA revealed that within the three-year monitoring period, there was no clear drawdown trend in the sand and gravel and shallow bedrock aquifers. However, because the three-year study period is a fairly

short time scale, it is difficult to make definitive conclusions about the long-term sustainability of current groundwater withdrawals. Recognizing this constraint, the SGWA and the ISWS have committed to continue monitoring efforts.

Currently, the SGWA is focused on studying the area's shallow aquifer water head level behaviors and water quality issues like contamination from chloride and nitrates. Partners for this study include the Illinois State Water Survey, the Northwest Water Planning Alliance, the Village of Sugar Grove, Sugar Grove Township, and Kane County. The SGWA also shares hydrology data and reports with Sugar Grove's engineering consultants to support their study of the Village's future water supply.

Water quality

Much of the Sugar Grove planning area is covered by sand and gravel materials (Figure 3) that overlay highly permeable bedrock. Groundwater recharge in areas covered by these materials is high to moderately high, which means that the potential for contamination is also high to moderate (Figure 4).^{9,10} Most of the developed land within the Village is centered around Route 47, which overlaps with areas with that have moderate to moderately high potential for contamination. With agriculture being the predominant land use within Sugar Grove's municipal limits and the surrounding unincorporated areas, there is potential for contaminants such as fertilizers and insecticides to infiltrate the ground throughout the community. Moreover, areas with the highest sensitivity to contamination in Figure 4 are within agricultural areas. Road infrastructure is also a predominant land use which likely poses additional contamination potential from road salt application, which contribute to increased chloride concentrations in groundwater. Both of these potential sources of contamination are addressed in the Village's 2020 Source Water Protection Plan, which is further explained in the *Water quantity and quality protection measures* section.

Aside from groundwater resources, other important water resources in the Sugar Grove planning area include wetlands with high functional value and high habitat quality, and several floodplains (Figure 3). Wetlands play an important role in filtering pollutants and naturally improving water quality, while undeveloped floodplains improve natural flood control measures. Future land use and development plans should protect these important resources.

⁹ Illinois EPA, (n.d.). *Source Water Assessment Protection Program interactive mapping tool*: Source Water Assessment protection data: Potential for Aquifer Recharge. Retrieved from <https://illinois-epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4d37a05f5ba441f1b30dab54ccb81fc8>

¹⁰ <https://files.isgs.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/maps/county-maps/kane-as.pdf>

Figure 3. Water resources in the Sugar Grove planning area

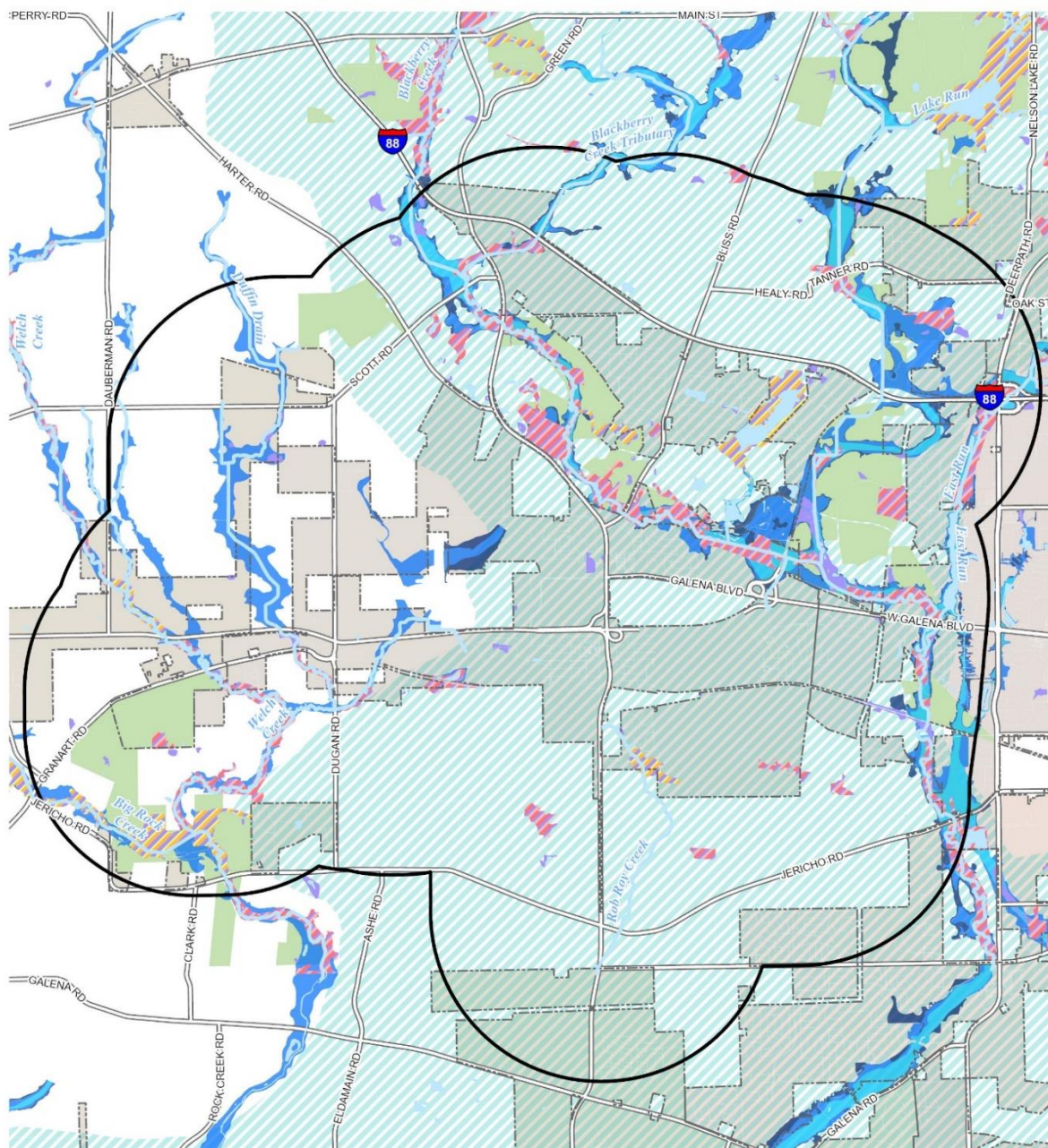
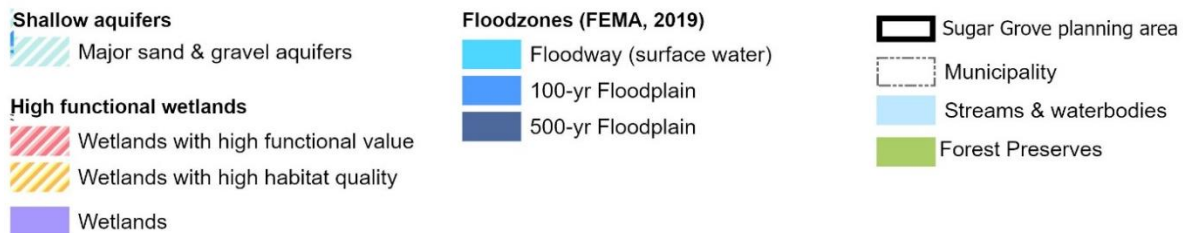
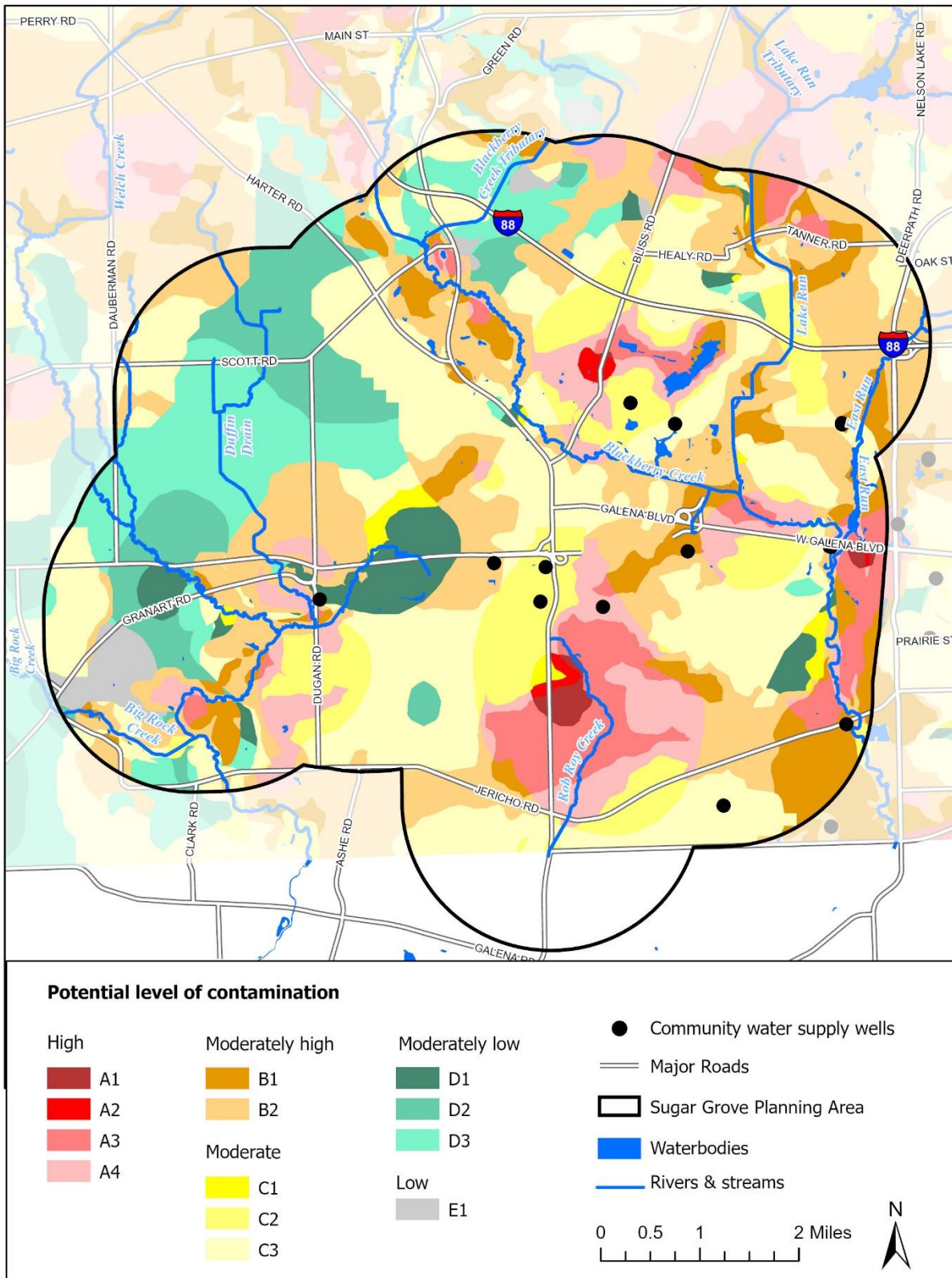


Fig. 4 Aquifer sensitivity to contamination in the Sugar Grove planning area



Climate impacts

As the climate changes, northeastern Illinois is expected to see longer and more frequent droughts as well as increased precipitation (in the form of rain, ice, and snow) during the winter and spring months.¹¹ Increases in drought conditions and winter precipitation may pose significant risks to the Village's groundwater supplies, especially shallow aquifers.

According to the ISWS groundwater monitoring data, water levels in shallow aquifers in Sugar Grove township are typically highest in April and May and decline in the summer and fall months. This indicates that the aquifers are primarily being recharged in the winter and spring months and then gradually decrease in response to drier summer and early fall conditions.¹²

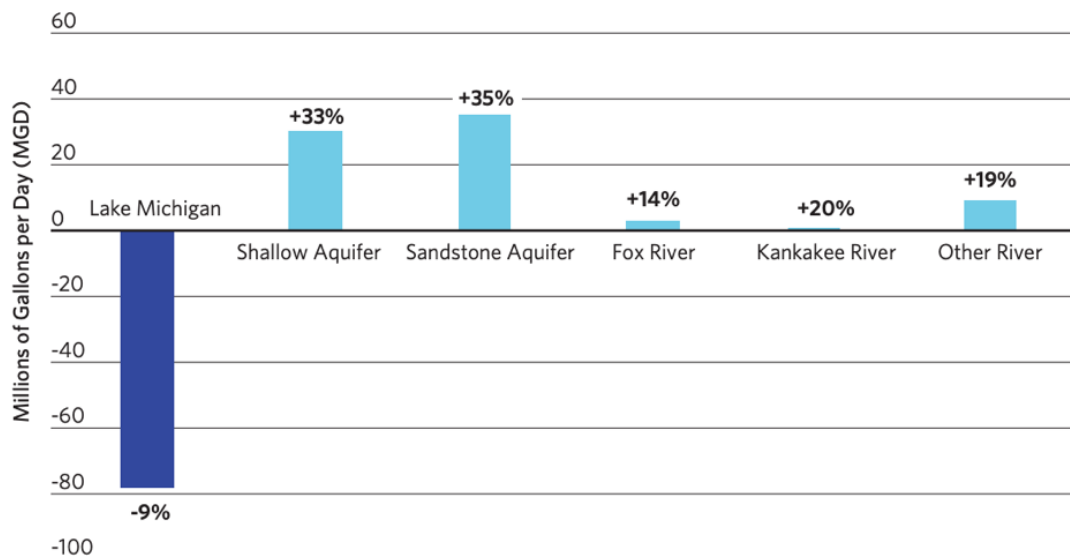
Warmer temperatures and prolonged periods of drought can affect the magnitude and timing of recharge of aquifers. These conditions can increase the Village's demand for water and put stress on the aquifer system by extracting water at rates that exceed the aquifer's ability to recharge. At the same time, increased winter, and spring precipitation, particularly in the form of snow and ice, will make the shallow aquifers more susceptible to chloride contamination with the likely increase in road salt application.

Historic water use trends and projected use

Understanding both the available supply of water and current and future demand is critical to making informed land use, transportation, and infrastructure investment decisions. At the regional scale, by 2050, water demand is projected to increase by 35 percent in areas currently relying on sandstone aquifers and 33 percent in areas currently relying on shallow aquifers (Figure 5).¹³ Although the Village's demand is small relative to regional demand, Sugar Grove and many other villages of its size are contributing to the regional trend.

¹³ Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (2019). *Changing water demand: Projecting water use in the Chicago region to 2050*. Retrieved from <https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs/water/supply-planning/resources/2050-water-demand>

Figure 6. Projected changes in regional water demand by water source, 2011-2050



CMAQ, 2018. ON TO 2050 Regional Water Demand Forecast

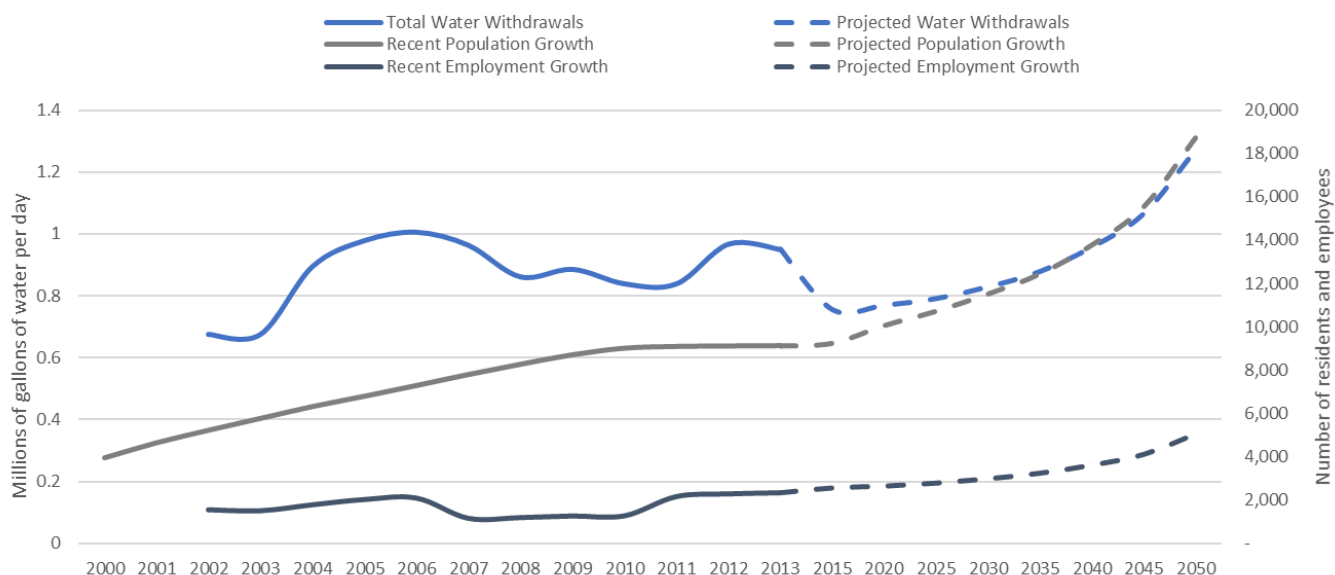
According to historical water use data reported to the Illinois Water Inventory Program, in 2013, Sugar Grove's public water system as well as private industrial, commercial and non-community water supply wells, pumped an annual average of 1 million gallons of water per day.¹⁴ This historic use represents a 34 percent increase over 2003 pumpage, which reflects the community's population growth experienced during that time period (Figure 7). Based on a long-range planning forecast, by 2050, the Village of Sugar Grove is projected to use over 1.3 million gallons of groundwater per day, drawn mostly from the deep sandstone aquifer (Figure 9). Overall, Sugar Grove's projected water use by 2050 represents a 51 percent increase over 2015 estimated pumpage. This reflects the Village's projected growth in population, which is estimated to increase by 68 percent, from approximately 9,230 residents in 2015 to nearly 19,000 residents in 2050. Through the comprehensive planning process, updates to the community's expectations for future population and employment growth will likely change the forecast.

While the projected water use reflects an increase in population, water efficiency is projected to improve and is reflected in an overall decrease in per capita use (Figure 8). Sugar Grove's residential per capita water use increased between 2000 and 2005; however, since 2005 per person water use has steadily declined (Fig. 8). Currently, water use per person and per employee is 51 gallons per capita per day (GPCD), and 52 gallons per employee per day (GPED). Regionally, water use per person and per employee is estimated to decrease approximately 20 percent by 2050. This projection reflects the continued implementation of conservation practices such as installation of efficient plumbing fixtures and appliances, as well

¹⁴ Pumpage from private residential wells is not included in this number.

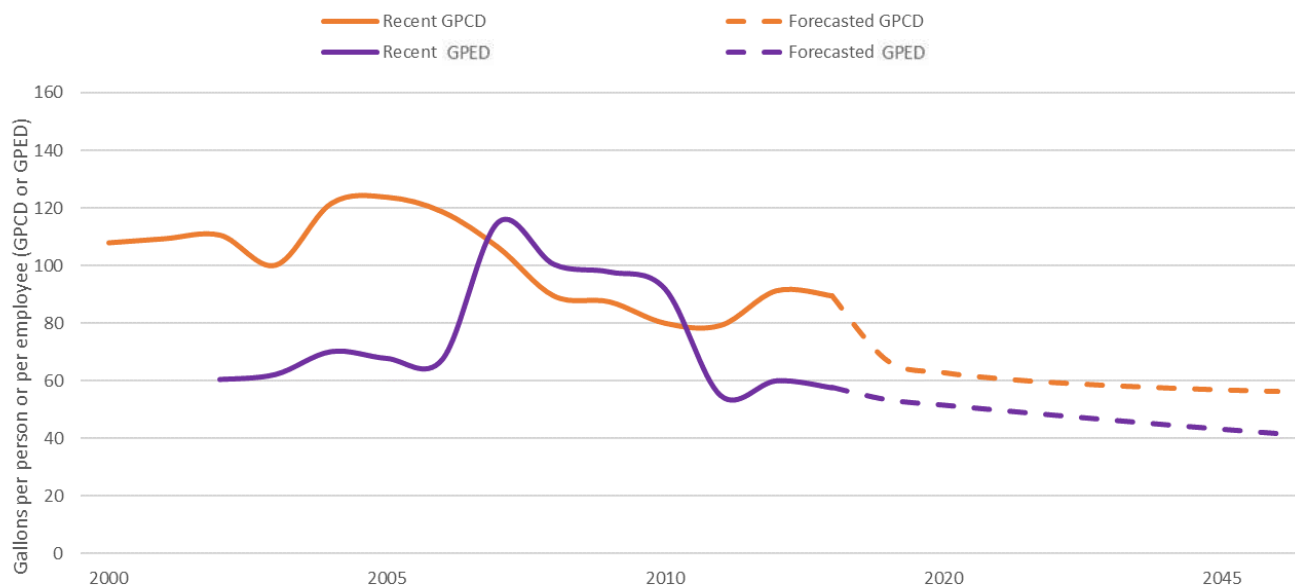
as outdoor lawn watering ordinances. These practices are essential to protecting Sugar Grove's groundwater resources, especially deep sandstone aquifers that are at risk of depletion.

Figure 7. Recent and projected water withdrawals with population and employment growth in Sugar Grove



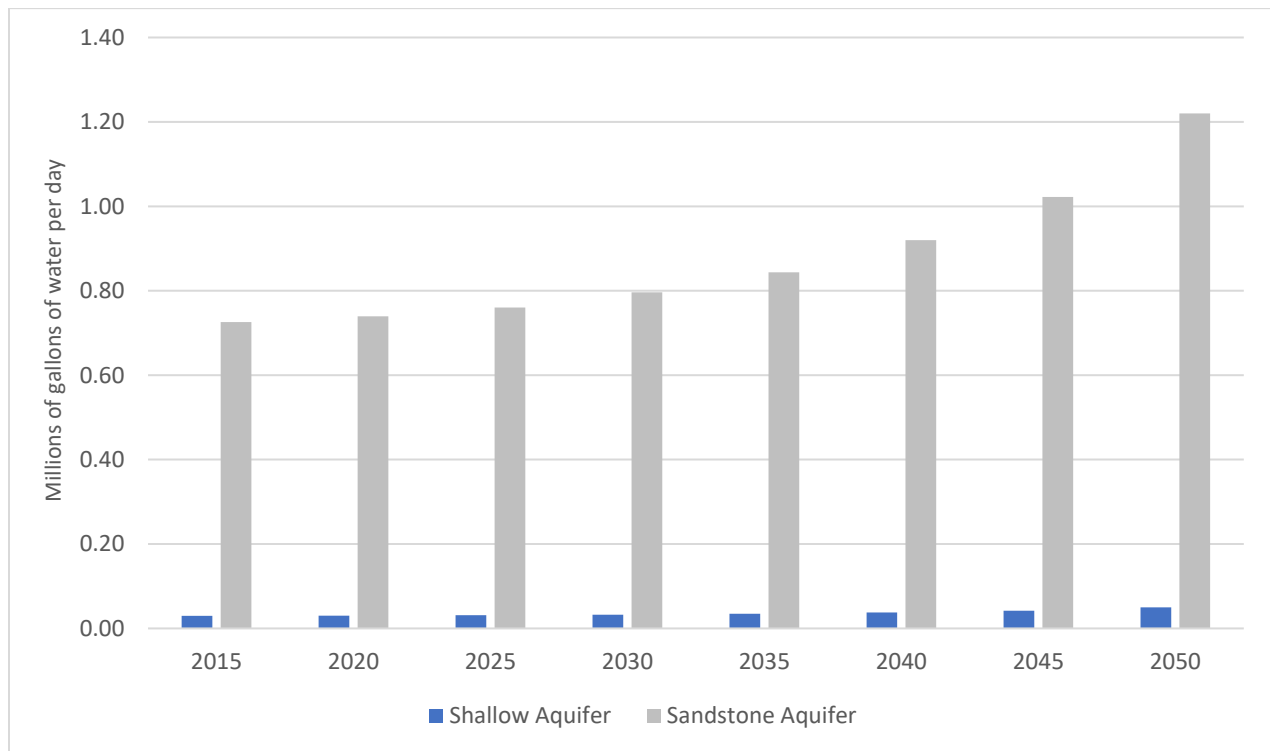
Source: CMAP, 2018. ON TO 2050 Regional Water Demand Forecast.

Figure 8. Recent and projected water use per resident and per employee in Sugar Grove



Source: CMAP, 2018. ON TO 2050 Regional Water Demand Forecast.

Figure 9. Projected groundwater use by source



Source: CMAP, 2018. ON TO 2050 Regional Water Demand Forecast.

Drinking water distribution system

The Village of Sugar Grove pumps, treats, stores, and distributes drinking water to 9,888 residents as well as commercial and industrial businesses within its corporate limits and two nearby unincorporated areas (Prestbury and the Aurora Municipal Airport). The system was installed in the 1960's and currently consists of eight active wells. This includes three shallow wells (No. 2, 5, 7), which are not used on a daily basis due to low gallon per minute yields, and the lack of a treatment system to produce water consistent with water quality of other wells utilizing cation exchange techniques. Additionally, the water system includes five deep wells, one of which (No. 4) is available for emergency use due to higher than allowed radium levels. Four of the Village's deep wells (No. 8, 9, 10, 11) are treated with three ion exchange treatment facilities, which remove radium and work similar to a water softener. Water from wells No. 2, 4, 5, and 7 are chemically treated at each well site using chlorine, fluoride, and pyrophosphate. In addition, all of the wells are sampled on a regular basis to ensure water quality.

Table 1. Water supply wells within the Village of Sugar Grove

Well No.	Date Built	Known Contaminants	Aquifer	Minimum Setback	Depth (feet)
No. 2 (20108)	1961	Iron	Sand and gravel	400	107
No. 4* (20110)	1978	Radium	Deep sandstone	200	1,475
No. 5 (20088)	1967	Iron	Shallow bedrock	400	200
No. 6*	1973	Iron	Sand and gravel	400	200
No. 7 (00737)	1989	Iron	Sand and gravel	400	100
No. 8 (01400)	2001		Deep sandstone	200	1,495
No. 9 (01473)	2004		Deep sandstone	200	1,465
No. 10 (01678)	2005		Deep sandstone	200	1,432
No. 11 (01679)	2005		Deep sandstone	200	1,392
*Emergency use					

After the water is treated, it is discharged to the Village's storage tanks and pumped to the distribution system. Sugar Grove's water system is comprised of three storage tanks, including two elevated and one ground level tank. Of the elevated tanks, one has a storage capacity of 500,000 gallons, while the other has a storage capacity of 200,000 gallons. The ground level store tank has a capacity of 2 million gallons. The Village's water system contains 85 miles of water mains, and approximately 4,300 service connections. According to the annual service line material inventory, required by the IEPA, of the total 4,287 service line connections, the Village identified zero lead service lines. More than half of the Village's service lines are made of copper and non-lead solder, while about 40 percent are made of copper and lead solder.¹⁵ In addition to service connections with Sugar Grove's municipal limits, the Village also provides water service to two nearby unincorporated areas. This includes approximately 742 water service connections in the Prestbury subdivision, and 114 service connections within the Aurora Municipal Airport. The unincorporated areas serviced by the Village encompass roughly 2,000 residents.

¹⁵ <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/drinking-water/public-water-users/Pages/lead-service-line-information.aspx>

Water systems are designed to be able to distribute clean water for the maximum demand that could be anticipated on a given day, which is often in the summer. According to the Department of Public Works, the Village's maximum daily demand is approximately 1.6 million gallons, while the average daily demand is about 1 million gallons. Water systems are also a long-term investment and need to be designed for projected water demand that could occur in 20 to 30 or more years out into the future. The Village uses a capital improvement plan to keep track of future system maintenance projects but does not have a utility scale demand forecast. When the forecasted long-term annual usage from CMAP's municipal water demand forecast is compared with the historic daily and maximum usage, the Village's system with a storage capacity of 2.7 million gallons, appears to have enough capacity to meet long-term demand. According to CMAP's municipal water demand forecast, the Village is projected to use an annual average of 1.3 million gallons a day in 2050, which is slightly lower than the current maximum daily demand and about 50 percent of the system's capacity.

However, the current location of Sugar Grove's storage may impact future development patterns. The Village may need to assess whether its storage and distribution system can adequately deliver water relative to the location of future development. For example, the majority of the storage is currently located on the south side of the Village. If development occurs in the north, the Village will need to revise their storage needs and determine necessary infrastructure improvements. This would be less efficient and more expensive than concentrating future development in areas that already have service connections and other critical distribution infrastructure.

Water Rate

To ensure a well-functioning water system the Village's water rate is used to cover costs related to maintenance and operation of the system. The Village of Sugar Grove uses a two-part rate pricing structure, with a uniform volumetric rate of \$5.18 per 1,000 gallons and a fixed component consisting of a \$17 monthly maintenance fee.¹⁶ Assuming a typical household uses 5,000 gallons a month, the monthly water bill in 2019 is estimated to have been \$40.40. Non-residents of unincorporated areas that receive water services from the Village are charged \$6.75 per 1,000 gallons in addition to the \$17 monthly maintenance fee, and a \$1.50 meter charge. The higher water rate for non-residents reflects the unincorporated area's older water infrastructure, which the Village maintains.

In 2008, the Village's water rate was \$2.87, which means that it has increased by approximately 80% in the last 13 years.¹⁷ This trend is in line with rising water costs throughout northeastern

¹⁶ <https://www.sugargrovel.gov/departments/finance/utility-billing/>

¹⁷ <https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/102881/Sugar+Grove.pdf>

Illinois, partly due to the cost of maintaining and repairing aging water infrastructure. While there is a need to raise enough revenue to cover the cost of operation and maintenance of a water system, it is also important to consider community members who face affordability challenges. Although the Village does not have assistance programs for low-income residents, the Village recognizes that some customers may need an extension to pay their water bill due to unforeseen circumstances. In these cases, the Village offers payment plans to individuals that notify the Village of their need.

In addition to using the water rate and maintenance fee, the Village has used the IEPA Public Water Supply Loan Program to pay for water system improvements. Some improvements funded through this program include treatment facilities for well no. 8 and 9, as well as an emergency generator for well no. 7. Moreover, any new development within the Village is required to pay a tap-on fee for installing a new connection to the water system.

Water Quantity and Quality Protection Measures

Ground Water Protection Ordinance and Source Water Protection Plan

In order to protect the quantity and quality of Sugar Grove's groundwater resources, the Village has a Groundwater Protection Ordinance and Source Water Protection Plan. Additionally, the Village complies with the Illinois EPA drinking water regulations and the Illinois Groundwater Protection Act.

As of August 2019, community water suppliers are required to develop these plans, which need to be approved by Illinois EPA. The Village's 2020 Source Water Protection Plan, aims to protect the quantity and quality of Sugar Grove's groundwater resources in order to ensure a safe and adequate water supply for the present and the future. The plan identifies potential sources of contamination of groundwater resources, examines present and future capacity of community wells, and aims to address the objectives of the Groundwater Protection Ordinance. To accomplish this, the Village plans to use the best available data to update the source water protection area and list of potential contaminants. The Village is also committed to reviewing and updating the regulations within the Groundwater Protection Ordinance, as needed¹⁸.

Groundwater restrictions and potential contaminants

In accordance with the State of Illinois' Groundwater Protection Act and the Village's 1997 Groundwater Protection Ordinance, Sugar Grove's community water supply wells must have setback zones that restrict land use near the wells and protect them from potential sources of groundwater contamination such as, facilities that store, handle, treat, use, or produce

¹⁸ Sugar Grove Source Water Protection Plan, 2020.

substances that pose a hazard to water quality. Minimum setback zones are mandatory for all public wells. A community can also use maximum set back zones to provide a second level of protection and regulate land use beyond the required maximum setback zone. The below table provides more information on the groundwater restrictions that exist within Sugar Grove.

Table 2. Groundwater restrictions in the Sugar Grove planning area

Restriction Type	Description	Benefit	Land Use Implication
Minimum Setback Zone: 200 ft	IEPA required minimum setback zones of 200 ft for all community water supply wells.	No new potential contamination sources or routes can locate in these zones.	Restricts the location of new facilities that use, store, handle, treat or produce a regulated substance within the minimum setback zone.
Minimum Setback Zone: 400 ft	IEPA required minimum setback zones of 400 ft for a community water supply well that opens to unconfined (shallow) aquifers.	No new potential contamination sources or routes can locate in these zones.	Restricts the location of new facilities that use, store, handle, treat or produce a regulated substance within the minimum setback zone.
Maximum Setback Zone: 1,000 ft	Voluntarily adopted maximum setback zones, up to 1,000 feet from a community water supply well.	No new potential contamination sources or routes can locate in these zones.	Restricts the location of new facilities that use, store, handle, treat or produce a regulated substance within the maximum setback zone.
Phase II ¹⁹ Wellhead Protection Area	The delineated 5-year recharge area surrounding a community water supply well, through which contaminants are likely to move toward such well.	Prevents new sources of contamination from locating within the wellhead protection area.	Restricts new industrial, commercial and/or agricultural land-uses from locating adjacent to the protected wells.

Source: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

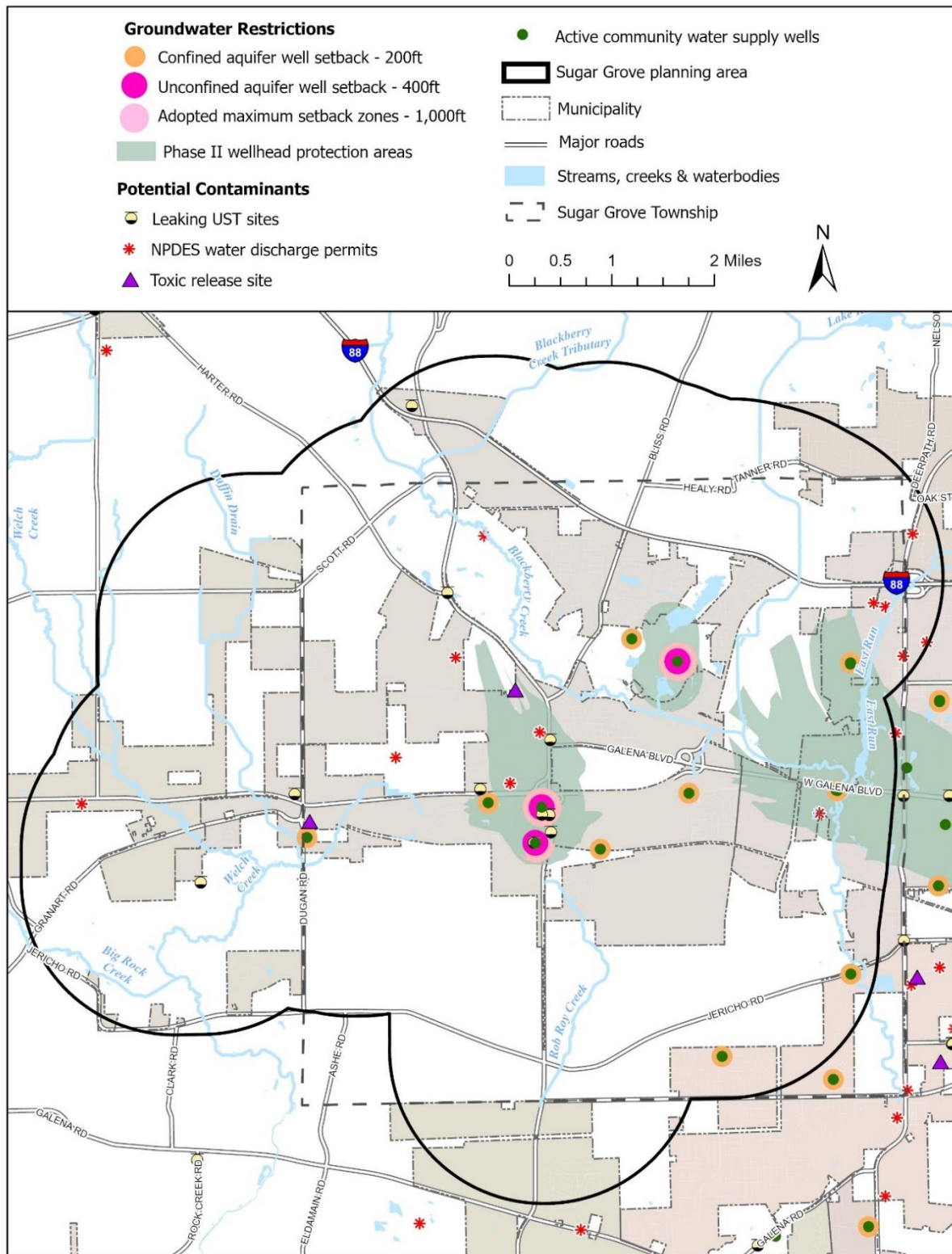
Sugar Grove's five deep (confined) wells have minimum 200-foot radius set back zones, while the three shallow (unconfined) public water supply wells have minimum 400-foot radius setbacks zones, because their shallow depth makes them more susceptible to contamination. To further protect Sugar Grove's water resources from potential contamination, the Village voluntarily adopted maximum set back zones of 1,000 ft around the Village's three shallow (unconfined) wells. Additionally, the Village utilizes phase II wellhead protection areas²⁰ around the three shallow wells to further ensure safe and high-quality water from these wells (Fig. 5). These setback zones and protection areas prevent new public wells and new sources of contamination from being located within the protected buffer. Some of the potential sources of

¹⁹ Phase II of the Wellhead Protection Program focuses on new and existing sources of contamination and regulating land uses within the wellhead protection area.

²⁰ This coverage depicts the location of delineated 5-Year Recharge Areas for Community Water Supply wells in Sugar Grove

contamination within Sugar Grove include leaking underground storage (UST) sites, pollution from stormwater discharge areas, and sites releasing toxic materials like toluene and methanol (Fig. 5).

Fig. 5 Groundwater restrictions and potential contaminants in the Sugar Grove planning area



Existing land use protections and water conservation policies

Land use planning and development decisions influence the amount of water used, the supply and quality of water sources, and the cost of maintaining water service. During a comprehensive planning process, future land use plans should consider how proposed growth patterns could impact available supplies and infrastructure capacity and adjust policies accordingly. This could include actions that conserve water, protect supply, and pursue alternative drinking water sources. Because deep sandstone aquifers in portions of the Sugar Grove planning area are at risk of desaturation, water conservation is essential for ensuring that the Village has an adequate supply of water in the future.

The Village of Sugar Grove's 2005 comprehensive plan assessed how growth patterns may impact water quality, as well as infrastructure capacity; however, the plan does not address the potential impacts of population growth and future land uses on water availability. Certain land uses, building types, and development patterns consume more water than others. As a community located on the edge of the region, Sugar Grove has a less dense development pattern compared to other communities. In northeastern Illinois, residential rates of water use tend to be lower in communities with more compact development.²¹ The majority of the Village is zoned for single family residential uses and is surrounded by agricultural land. The 2005 Comprehensive Plan discusses future growth as primarily the development of unincorporated vacant and agricultural land surrounding the community, although the plan acknowledges that growth from the center of the Village outward should be encouraged. For example, the plan recommends that new development should occur adjacent to existing development to prevent important farmland from being developed prematurely. To protect the rural character of the Village, the plan aims to achieve a balance between the preservation of environmental features, such as aquifers, streams, and wetlands, while accommodating new development.²² This includes encouraging conservation design, which is characterized by clustered development with preserved areas of open space and natural features. In terms of commercial development, the plan recommends building off existing commercial corridors and creating a town center that could offer residents with retail options. The plan also recommends directing non-polluting light industrial, warehouse and distribution and heavy commercial land uses to existing and planned business parks. Since the adoption of the comprehensive plan in 2005, there has been very little new commercial or industrial development within the Village.

²¹ Dziegielewski Benedykt, "Residential Water Use in Northeastern Illinois, Estimating Water-Use Effects of Infill Growth versus Exurban Expansion," 2009, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/14452/NE+IL+Residential+Water+Use.pdf/9a07c0d8-3733-48c3-94f6-abaa5bad1477>

²² Village of Sugar Grove 2005 Comprehensive Plan

The location of new development also plays a role in water consumption and infrastructure costs. Infill development, as opposed to new development on undeveloped open space or agricultural land, can improve the efficiency of the system by increasing the size of the customer base that helps maintain the existing infrastructure. Contrary to this, the 2005 Comprehensive Plan recommends sizing and extending the Village's water supply system to provide services to future development in new areas. This expansion would require new infrastructure, and therefore, would add to the system's long-term capital costs. The plan also acknowledges that existing water storage tank capacity and location currently limit the Village's ability to distribute water to future residents and recommends the construction of new tanks where necessary.

Aside from water efficient land use decisions, other conservation practices can help decrease water use and have an additional benefit of helping reduce the costs of expensive capacity expansion. Sugar Grove's municipal code includes a water conservation ordinance to help curb excessive outdoor water use and aims to ensure that there is an adequate water supply for drinking, bathing and fire protection in the summer, when demand is high. The ordinance allows residents using sprinkling systems to water their lawns from 6am to 9am and 6pm to 9pm. The ordinance also includes an even-odd calendar day restriction, where even numbered properties can water their lawns during the designated time on even calendar days, while odd numbered properties can water their lawns on odd calendar days. Additionally, the planting of sod or grass seed is prohibited during the months of July and August unless you use a water source other than the Village water system. The Village enforces the ordinance by issuing written warnings on the first offense, and tickets for the second offense. In order to further prevent water loss and encourage water efficiency, the Village utilizes smart meter sensors that detect water leaks in household appliances and fixtures and alert users. In addition, the Village website features educational materials on water loss and leak detection. The information outlines the impacts of water loss and tells residents how to report water main breaks and other issues related to water loss.

APPENDIX B

MARCH 2022 VILLAGE SURVEY SUMMARY



Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan

Community Survey #1 – Findings Summary

Survey Window:

The Village of Sugar Grove Community Survey #1 (CS1) was conducted online from Wednesday, February 16, 2022 through Thursday, March 24, 2022.

Survey Location:

CS1 was hosted online via the Qualtrics XM survey platform. The survey was accessible via a link on the Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan website on the CMAP EngageHQ platform. The link to this page and announcements about the survey were posted on the Village website, included in utility bills mailed to Village residents, and promoted at the first community workshop on March 14, 2022. The survey was accessible to respondents in both English and Spanish and via computer and smart device.

Survey Description:

The Village of Sugar Grove CS1 was administered in Phase 2 (Visioning) of the planning process's community engagement timeline. The purposes of the survey included:

- Understand the community's perceptions of the village in the past and present;
- Understand the community's experience of the Village and its services today;
- Collect community priorities related to growth and future investments in Sugar Grove; and
- Learn about the community's aspirations for the future of the Village;
- Identify the best means of communicating with the community.

The survey primarily included multiple choice questions, short text response questions, and scale-based questions asking survey respondents to rank or evaluate options.

Response quality, as measured by the survey host site's automated analysis is reported to be 100%. No errors were found in the response data set that could impact survey outcomes.

Survey Summary:

CS1 was open for contributions for five weeks. In that time, 927 responses were recorded. The following summary reflects the responses of all respondents. Not every survey participant answered every question and, as a result, summaries of each set of results may report on fewer results than the total number of survey respondents.

Several questions asked respondents about basic demographic questions and questions about their experience as a member of the Sugar Grove community.

Respondent Age

Basic demographic data was collected revealing that no respondents were under the age of 18, 1.1% were between the ages of 18-25, 25% were between the ages of 26-39, 57% were between the ages of 40-65, 15% were between the ages of 65-79, and 1% were over the age of 80.

Respondent Tenure

Data was collected on respondents' tenure in the community—reflected in Figure 1. The majority of respondents (56%) have lived in the community for more than 4 but less than 20 years. 24% have lived there for less than 4 years. 18% have lived in the community for more than 20 years and 3% did not live in the Village of Sugar Grove.

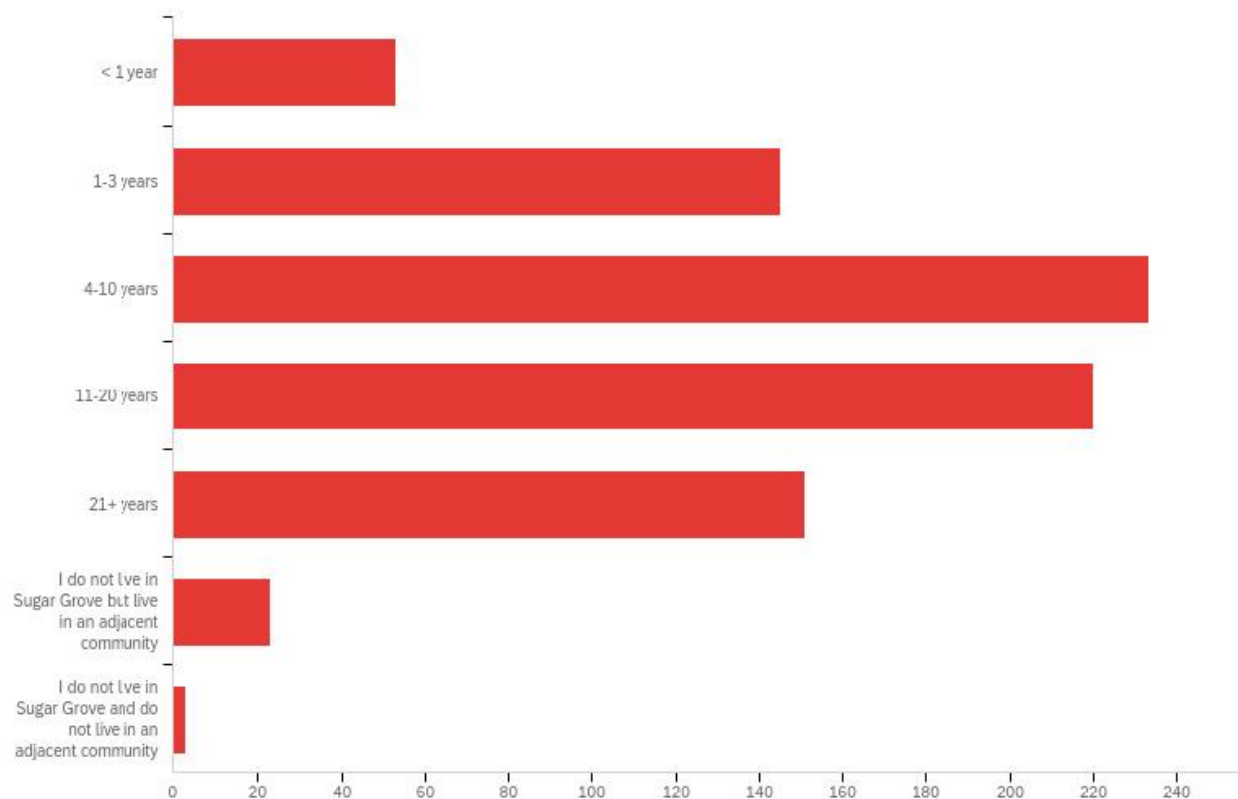


Figure 1: Responses to the question “How long have you lived in Sugar Grove?”

Modes of Travel

When respondents were asked if a personal vehicle was their primary means of getting around, more than 99.5% said yes, while less than a quarter of a percent of respondents each said “no” or “equal with other form(s).” When respondents were asked how many members of their household are non-drivers, the majority (56%) said none, while 35% of respondents said one to two members of their household were non-drivers, and 9% said there were three or more non-drivers in their household.

Perceptions of Safety

Respondents were asked about how safe they feel when walking, cycling, biking, and driving in Sugar Grove (see Figure 2). Overall, community members feel safe while out in Sugar Grove. Across all three modes of travel, more than three-fourths of survey respondents selected safe or very safe. Respondents felt safest driving, with 91% of all who answered this question choosing safe or very safe as compared to 9% choosing somewhat unsafe or very unsafe. When asked the same question for walking and driving, participants selected safe and very safe at rates of 88% and 78%, respectively and chose somewhat unsafe and very unsafe at rates of 12% and 22%, respectively.

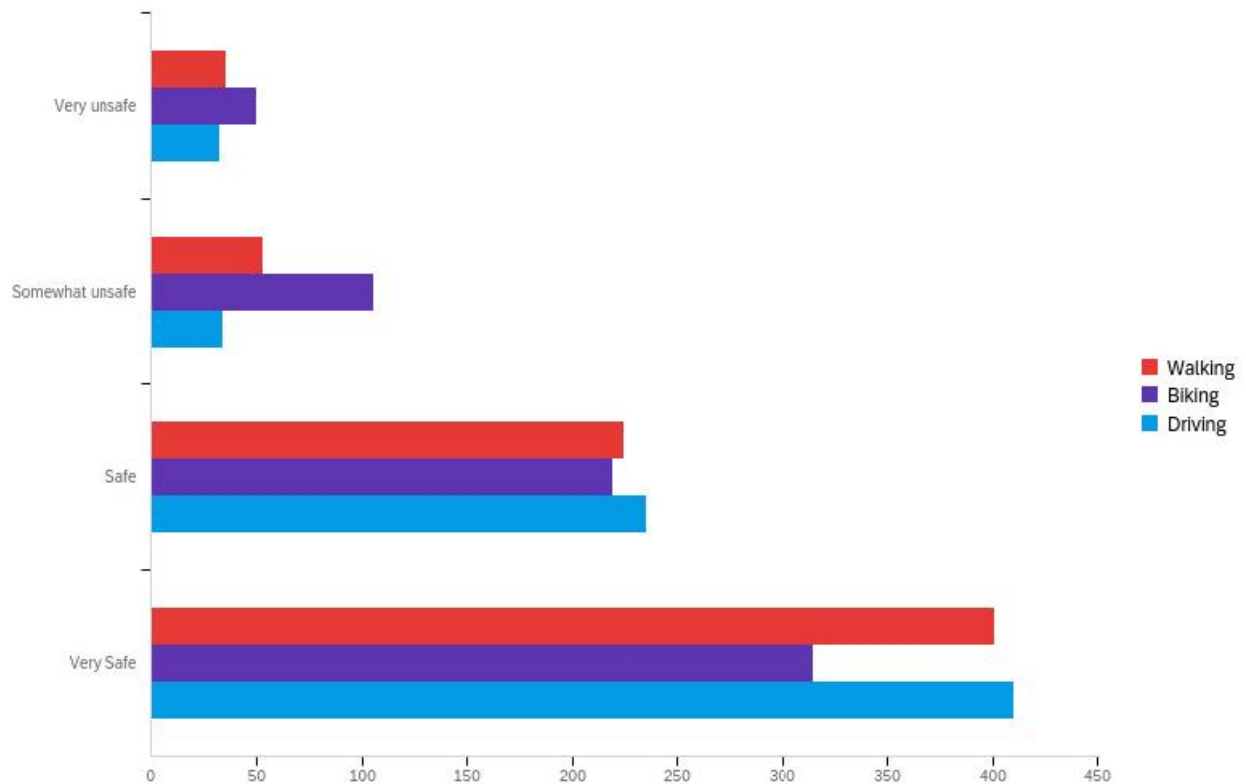


Figure 2: Responses to the question "Do you feel safe (walking/biking/driving) around Sugar Grove? - How safe do you feel?"

Local News Access

Survey respondents were asked about their primary source of news that is local to Sugar Grove (**Figure 3**). A plurality (42%) of respondents said Facebook or other social media was their primary source of local news. After social media, the most popular responses were the Village newsletter (18%), the Village website (10%), word of mouth (9%), local newspapers (6%), local television news (5%), local online newsletters (5%), other (3%), and Village public meetings (1%).

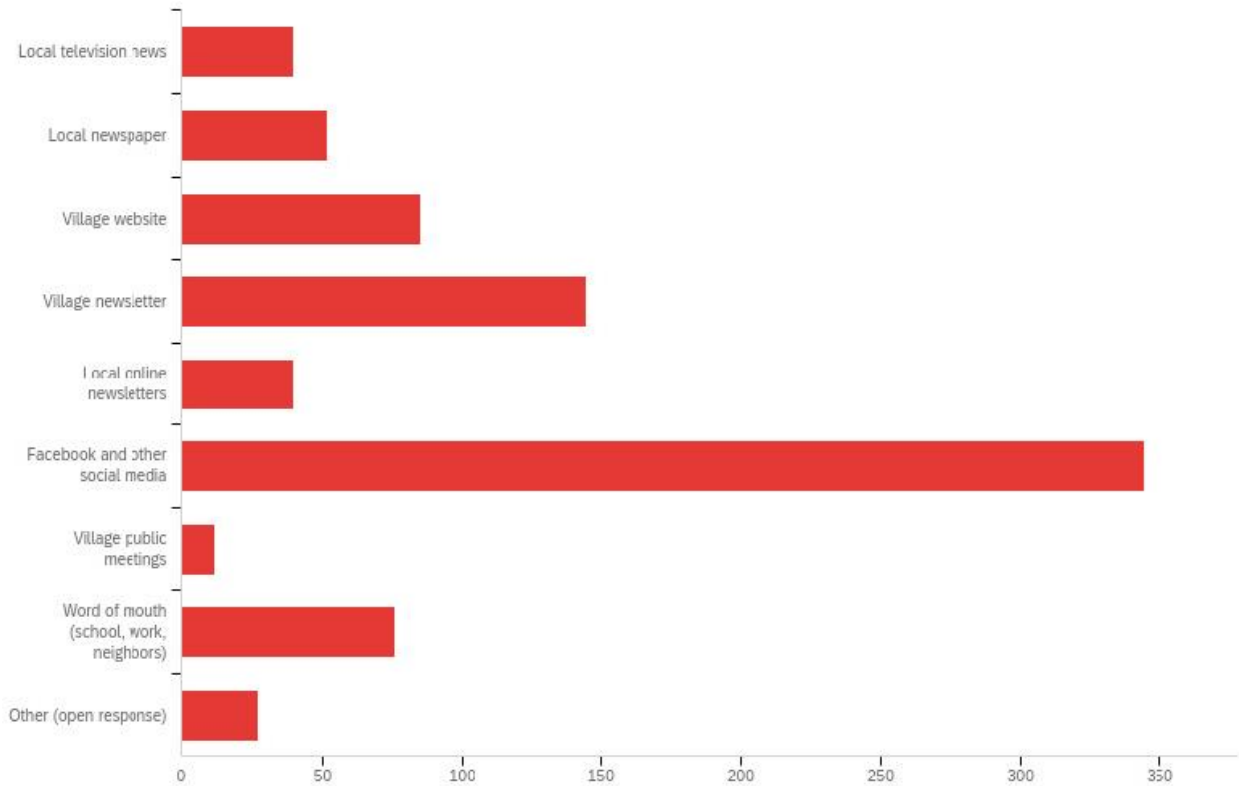


Figure 3: Responses to the question “What is your primary source of news that is local to Sugar Grove?”

Non-Residential Life in Sugar Grove

Respondents were asked to identify up to three locations/activities in Sugar Grove where they spend time outside their own home. The most popular responses were walking around the neighborhood (27%) and at a local store or shopping (26%). The next most popular responses were home of neighbor/friend/family (13%), local park/recreation (11%), work (10%), cycling around the neighborhood (7%), and school (1%).

The next set of questions asked respondents about their perceptions of Sugar Grove.

The Draw of Sugar Grove

Respondents were asked to describe what first attracted them to live in Sugar Grove and what they like most about living in Sugar Grove. These questions were posed as open response questions and respondents submitted short text answers. Responses have been organized in the word clouds in **Figures 4-6**. Overall, the word clouds reveal much of the same language submitted in response to both questions. Respondents wrote “proximity”, “community”, “small town feel”, “quiet”, “close”, “access”, “neighborhood”, “friendly”, “location”, “peaceful”, “safety”, and other similar words to describe their perceptions of the Village.

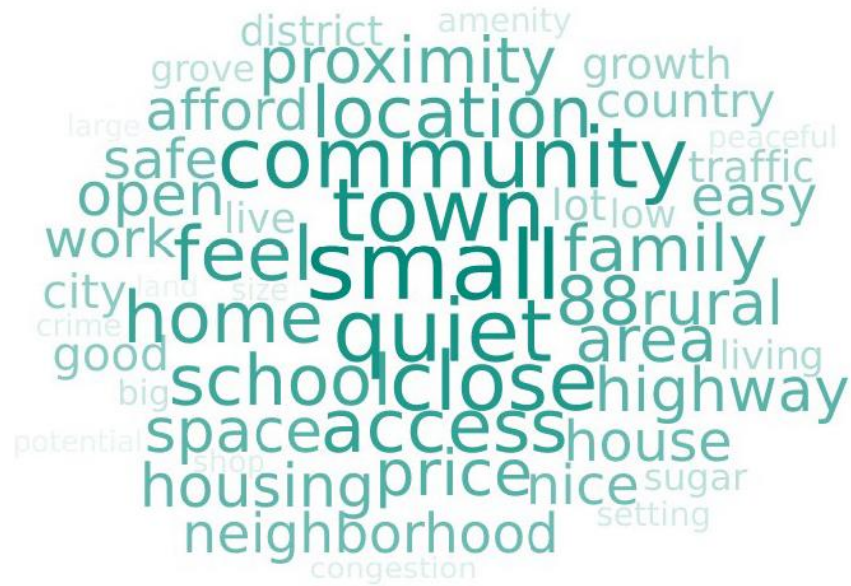


Figure 4: Word cloud results to the question "If you live in Sugar Grove, what attracted you to first move to the community?"



Figure 5: Word cloud results to the question "What do you like most about living in Sugar Grove?"



Figure 6: Word cloud results to the question “In your experience, what is unique about Sugar Grove as compared to the rest of the region?”

The next set of questions asked respondents about their experience of the Village and the services it provides.

Missing and Desired Experiences and Features

To understand the community’s desires for the future of Sugar Grove, survey respondents were asked to identify experiences that they felt were missing from the community today. The results of this question are depicted in **Figure 7**. The most popular response was “dining out”, which was selected by 24% of those who answered the question. The next most popular options were local shopping (boutiques, downtown retail) (17%), entertainment (11%), bars and nightlife (10%), recreation (natural areas, fields/courts) (9%), regional shopping (big box stores, shopping center) (7%), civic activities (farmers’ markets, festivals, parades) (7%), and civic events activities (clubs, groups, sports performances) (7%). Less popular options included other, (4%), employment (office, industrial) (3%), denser housing options (townhouses, multifamily) (1%), community education (libraries, resource centers) (<1%), and higher education (community colleges, extension programs) (<1%).

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- Younger respondents (39 years of age and younger) selected “bars and nightlife” at higher rates than older respondents (older than 39).
- “Entertainment” was a more popular selection among young adults and middle-aged respondents than younger and older respondents.
- “Regional shopping” was a more popular selection among younger and older respondents than it was among middle-aged respondents (40-65 years of age).
- “Civic events” was far more popular among the youngest respondents (18-25 years of age) than any other age group.
- “Recreation (natural areas, fields/courts)” declined in popularity among respondents with age by group.
- “Dining out” was least popular among respondents who have lived in Sugar Grove the longest (21+ years).

- “Bars and nightlife” was least popular among respondents who have lived in Sugar Grove the longest (more than 11 years).
- “Local shopping (boutiques, downtown retail)” roughly declined in popularity the longer that residents lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Employment (office, industrial)” and “Denser housing options (townhomes, multifamily)” roughly increased in popularity the longer that residents lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Civic events (farmers’ markets, festivals, parades)” roughly declined in popularity the longer that residents lived in Sugar Grove.

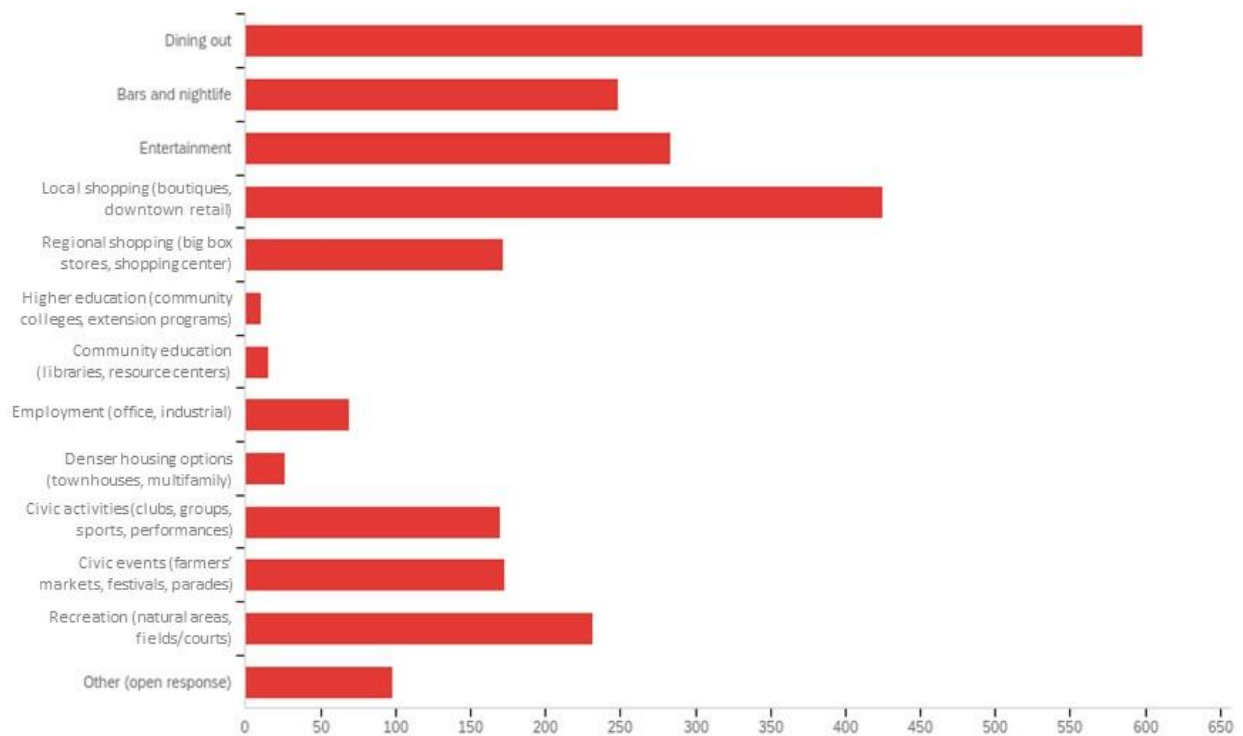


Figure 7: Responses to the question “In your opinion, what kind of experiences are missing from or desired for Sugar Grove today?”

Sugar Grove’s Problems

Respondents were asked to choose the three issues from a list of seventeen that they saw as the biggest problems facing Sugar Grove today (**Figure 8**). While no one issue or set of issues were selected overwhelmingly by survey-takers, a handful of issues were identified as bigger problems than others, including lack of resources and programs (14% of those who answered this question), growth (10%), availability of local services and resources (10%), business environment (8%), and resident attraction and retention (8%). Other options were selected by 5% or less of respondents.

10% of respondents selected “other” as one of their three choices. Written answers submitted alongside this choice can be found in Appendix 1 of this document (question 12).

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- “Local infrastructure maintenance” generally increased in popularity with age among respondents.
- “Lack of housing options (variety)” and “lack of housing affordability (cost)” roughly increased in popularity among respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

- “Lack of local diversity (racial, generational, etc).” decreased in popularity among respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Growth” increased in popularity among respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

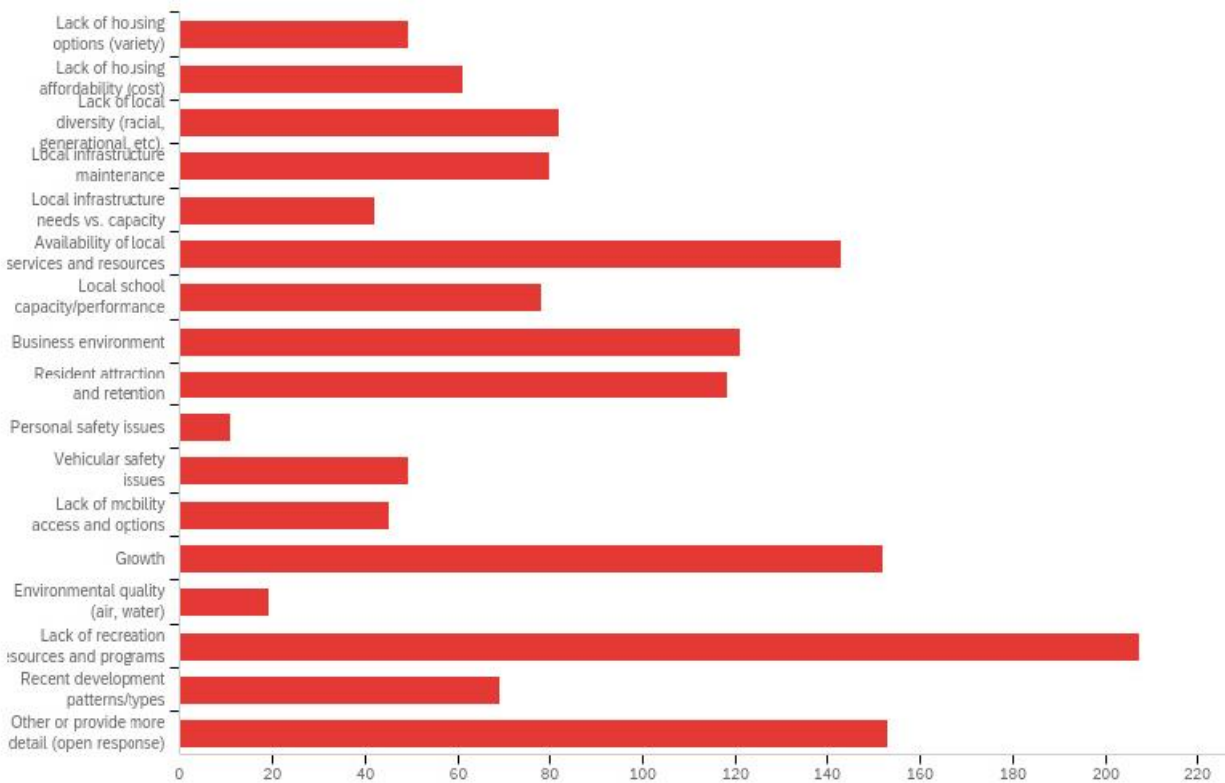


Figure 8: Responses to the question “In your opinion, what are the biggest problems facing Sugar Grove today?”

Threats to Sugar Grove

When asked to identify the top three threats to Sugar Grove’s quality of life in the next 10-20 years (**Figure 9**), the most popular responses were too much growth (13% of question respondents) and too little growth (14%). Respondents were approximately equally divided in choosing one of these two options. Other popular options included inability to meet the needs of emerging generations (12%), inability to get around without driving (10%), housing affordability (9%), growth/change outside village boundaries (9%), aging population (7%), and other (6%). None of the other options were selected by more than 4% of question respondents.

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- “Too much growth” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Too little growth” roughly decreased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Housing affordability” was more of a concern for the youngest and oldest respondents than it was for middle-aged respondents.
- “Inability to meet the needs of emerging generations” was a more prominent concern for younger respondents than older respondents and roughly declined in popularity the longer respondents lived in Sugar Grove.

- “Growth/change outside Village boundaries” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Inability to age in place within the community” increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Inability to get around without driving” and “inability to access regional transit” was most popular among the youngest and oldest respondents.
- “Housing affordability” increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Personal safety issues” and “vehicular safety issues” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Inability to get around without driving” increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

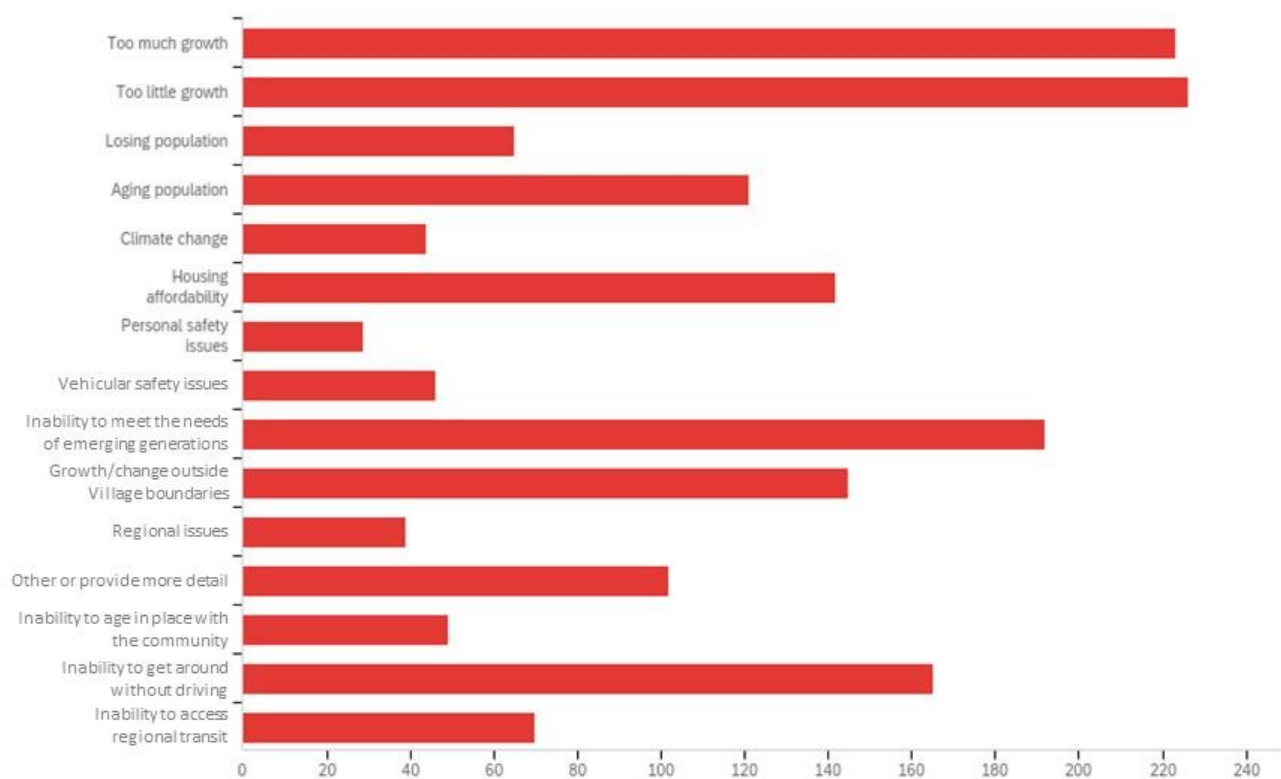


Figure 9: Responses to the question “What are the biggest threats to Sugar Grove’s quality of life in the next 10-20 years?”

Creating Community in Sugar Grove

When asked to select up to three options in response to the question “What important components of creating community does Sugar Grove lack today?”, the most popular selections were restaurants and bars (22% of respondents who answered this question selected this option), local retail (16%), cafes (14%), outdoor public gathering spaces (parks, plazas, amphitheaters) (12%), indoor recreation spaces (recreation center, pool) (10%), and entertainment venues (7%). All other options were selected by 5% or less of the respondents. See **Figure 10** for all recorded responses to this question.

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- “Restaurants and bars” were most popular among young adult (26-39 years of age) and middle-aged (40-65 years of age) respondents.
- “Housing diversity” roughly increased in popularity with respondent age.
- “Entertainment venues” was most popular among young adults (25-39 years of age) and became less popular with age.
- “Local retail” was very popular among the least tenured (residential) cohort (<1 year), least popular among those living in the community for 1-3 years, and increased from there with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Community diversity” decreased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

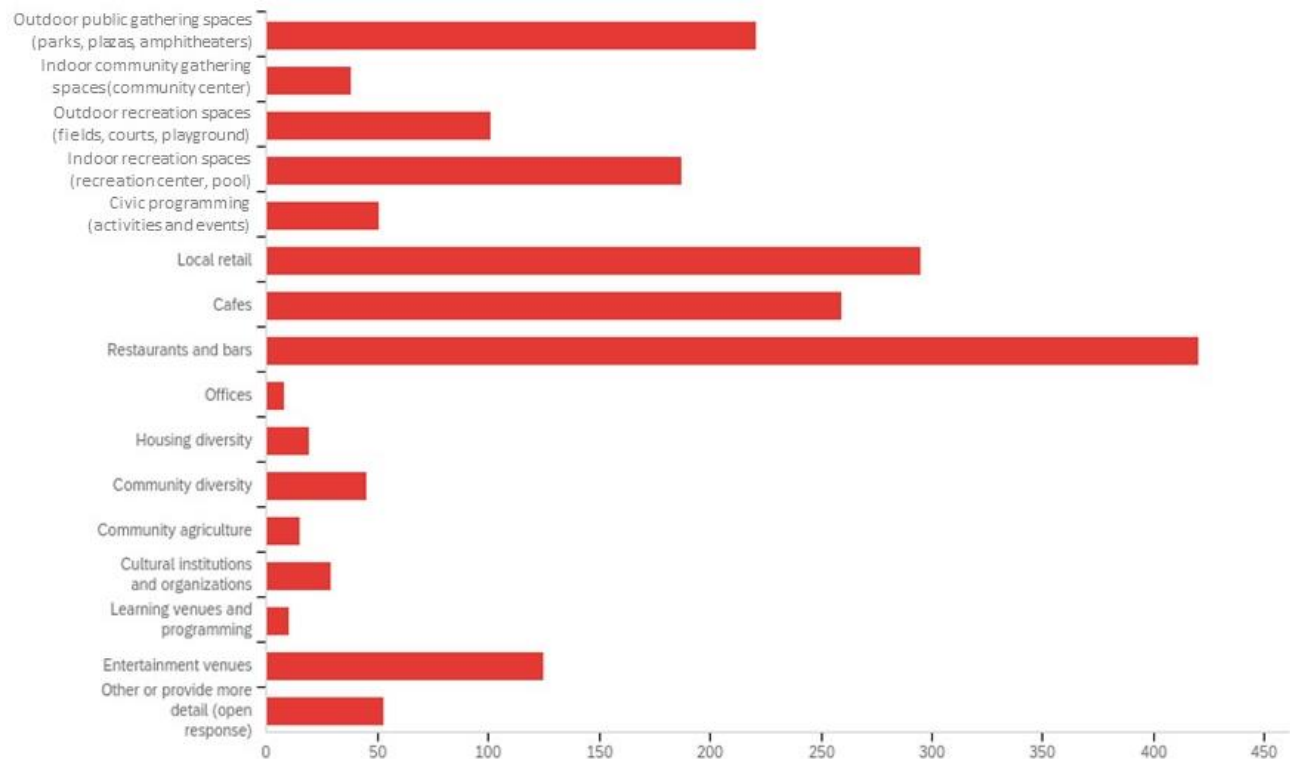


Figure 10: Responses to the question “What important components to creating community does Sugar Grove lack today?”

The next set of questions asked survey-takers about their objectives, priorities, and aspirations for the future of Sugar Grove.

Priorities for the Future

Participants were presented with fourteen proposed priorities derived from a strategic approach to addressing the issues identified in the planning team’s existing conditions research, interviews, and local market/economic analyses. Participants were asked to select their three top priorities for this comprehensive planning process among this list. Participants had the option to select “other” and provide a text response to expand on their selection. Selections ranged greatly in popularity, from the least popular—making Sugar Grove accessible to more people (selected by 1% of question respondents)—to the most popular—strengthening/enhancing the local business climate (18%). Other popular options included making/keeping Sugar Grove attractive to people of all ages (16%), protecting the natural environment (13%), enhancing community activities and programming (9%), growing Sugar Grove (9%), enhancing the public realm and community spaces (6%), better non-driving mobility options (6%), and identifying priority areas for development (6%), providing more flexibility to allow different types of

development to take shape (5%). Less popular selections included expanding housing variety and choice (3%), increasing affordability of housing stock (2%), identifying the most important upcoming public investments (2%), better connecting Sugar Grove to the larger region (1%), and making Sugar Grove accessible to more people (1%).

3% of participants selected “other” as a top priority. Some provided a text response to expound on their selection. Those text responses can be found in Appendix 1 under question 18.

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- “Making/keeping Sugar Grove attractive to people of all ages” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Growing Sugar Grove” sharply declined in popularity with respondent age.
- “Providing more flexibility to allow different types of development to take shape” roughly increased in popularity with respondent age.
- “Better non-driving mobility options” was roughly three times as popular among the oldest respondents (80+ years of age) as it was among any other age group.
- “Providing more flexibility to allow different types of development to take shape” was most popular among respondents with the most and least residential tenure.

Demand for Multi-Mobility

Building on the understanding of Sugar Grove’s mobility network developed as part of the existing conditions analysis, the planning team sought to understand what demand exists for alternative means of mobility (i.e. non-automotive means). Survey-takers were asked to rate four alternative means of mobility on a scale denoting how frequently they would use them if their availability was enhanced (see **Figure 11**). Responses from those who answered this question revealed that the community has significant interest in new/enhanced pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure (sidewalks, trails, bicycle lanes, cycle tracks), with 72% (pedestrian) and 66% (bicycle) selecting would be my primary means of mobility, somewhat frequently, or very frequently. Regional transit connectivity (enhanced access to Metra and CTA) was moderately popular with 28% of respondents selecting would be my primary means of mobility, somewhat frequently, or very frequently and 75% responding they would use it a little or not at all. The least popular option was local community shuttle (internal to Sugar Grove and nearby destinations). 17% of respondents selected would be my primary means of mobility, somewhat frequently, or very frequently for this means and 83% stated they would use it a little or not at all.

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- When asked how much they would use “enhanced bicycle infrastructure (bicycle lanes, trails and cycle tracks)” if it was available, the popularity of the “very frequently” response declined with respondent age.
- When asked how much they would use “regional transit connectivity (enhanced access to Metra and CTA)” if it was available, the popularity of the “very frequently” response increased with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- When asked how much they would use “local community shuttle (internal to Sugar Grove and nearby destinations)” if it was available, the popularity of the “very frequently” response increased with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

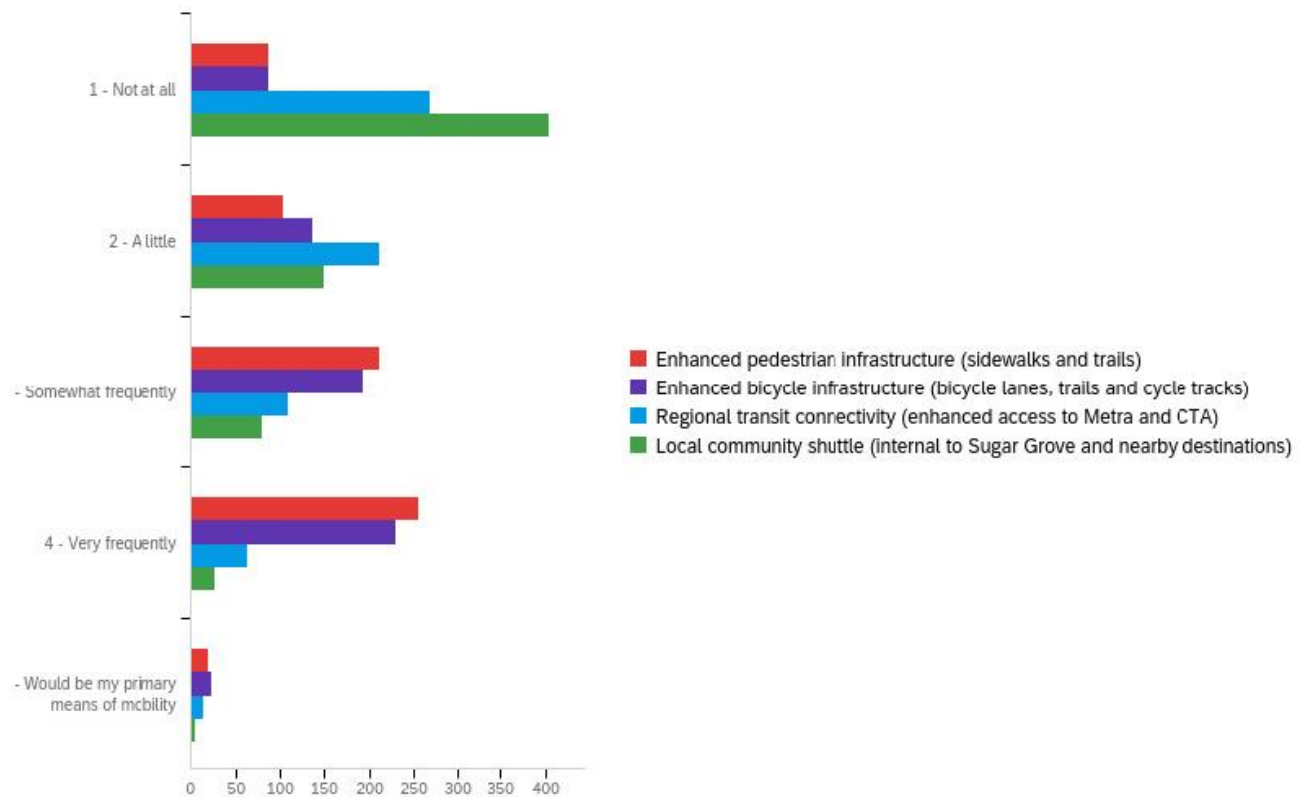


Figure 11: Responses to the question “If other means of mobility were available for getting around Sugar Grove and to other places in the region, how much would you use them?”

New Development

Survey-takers were asked for their views on what kinds of development should take shape in Sugar Grove over the next 10-20 years. Among the eight options presented, respondents could choose up to three. The most popular choices were retail development (31% of respondents chose this), entertainment development (26%), and civic development (community center, school, library, recreation center) (17%). Less popular options were higher density single family options (traditional neighborhood development) (8%), mixed-use development (8%), office development (6%), mid-density housing options (townhouses) (3%), and higher density housing options (small-scale multifamily buildings) (2%).

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- “Civic development (community center, school, library, recreation center)” and “entertainment development” roughly declined in popularity with age.
- “Mid-density housing options (townhouses)” and “office development” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Entertainment development” roughly declined in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

Protecting Sugar Grove’s Characteristics

Respondents were asked about which characteristics of Sugar Grove are in most need of protection if the community is to grow. Their responses have been amalgamated and the top words used are reflected in the word cloud in **Figure 11**.



Figure 11: Word cloud results to the question “Which characteristics of Sugar Grove today are most in need of protection if the community is to grow?”

Maximizing Engagement

Survey respondents were asked to provide input on how the planning team could maximize community engagement in community planning projects. Their responses have been amalgamated and the top words used are reflected in the word cloud in **Figure 12**.



Figure 12: Word cloud results to the question “How can we maximize community engagement in planning projects in Sugar Grove like this one?”

APPENDIX C

APRIL 2022 VILLAGE INTERVIEWS SUMMARY



Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan

Summary of Interviews with Key Stakeholders

Abbreviations:

VoSG: Village of Sugar Grove

22-03-09 Interview with Village Board Member Ryan Walter

- Q: From your perspective, what are some of the biggest changes that have impacted the Village over the last ten years?
 - Lack of community development
 - Lack of business development
 - Stagnation in development since 2008
 - Village residents are wanting to see more business in the community
 - Restaurants that have come have been very successful
 - Infrastructure not in place to attract large-scale operators
 - The community has not been able to grow
 - The Board is united in opinion on most things
 - Looking to hire a director of economic activity
 - Community and business development
 - VoSG is a great community and great school district, great neighborhoods
 - No sense of cohesive community
 - No downtown (community is built in the neighborhoods and in schools)
- Q: What do you see as the biggest challenges facing Sugar Grove in the next ten years?
 - Residents don't want to be Naperville or a big city, but they want the perks and amenities that come along with that.
 - Some Board members might be for development projects
 - Weighing the cost and benefits of growth vs. preservation
 - Diversifying the tax base
 - People leaving the community
 - Balancing the difference between the instinct to keep Sugar Grove as it is and the desire to bring in new developments, energy, retail, etc.
 - Changing the face of the community in a positive way
 - Managing fears around traffic/tourism
- Q: Imagine you're someone who is looking for a home in the region. What are some of the things that would attract you to Sugar Grove? What might dissuade you from buying/renting here?
 - Property taxes are high (number 1 or number 2 in Kane County)
 - High costs for desirable neighborhoods
 - Demand is high
- Q: From your perspective, what are some of the challenges of running or starting a business in Sugar Grove?
 - No vacant built space (no speculative development)
 - New businesses require building space
 - Barrier to entry being size
 - Putting forth a development that is generally accepted is difficult today
 - Incentives
 - TIF districts

- I-88 corridor is TIF eligible
 - Convincing the community that incentives are necessary to get business and investment to the Village
 - Educating the constituents about how local government functions
 - The Village has sales tax and property taxes
- Q: How would you describe the overall quality of service delivery from the Village of Sugar Grove?
 - Police/protection and water/sewer
 - Excellent service, excellent people (leadership and staff)
 - Snow plowing and salting is far ahead of other communities
 - Low negative resident feedback on this
 - Village Board gets complaints about things that are not in their control (State Roads)
 - Library/Fire/Park districts
 - People complain about these things, but they are not controlled by the Village
- Q: What are some of the biggest themes of concern you're hearing from your constituents?
 - Public was very engaged in 2018/2019 when the largest development
 - Future development in the Village is the biggest concern
 - Street and sidewalk issues
- Q: Are there any recent changes to County, State, School District, or other jurisdictional policy that have significantly impacted Sugar Grove over the last five years?
 - Not much
 - Cannabis (the Village did not allow it)
 - Retail development on Route 47: IDOT will not review or approve permits (years and years of backlog)
 - Even getting crosswalks approved is taking a long time
 - Any approved development will take a long time
- Q: What opportunities exist, if any, to strengthen the Village's relationship with neighboring or overlapping jurisdictions (i.e. Aurora and Kane County, respectively)?
 - Boundary agreements with Aurora and Batavia
 - No boundary agreement with Elburn
 - Crown was going to go to Elburn, but it would have been a lot more difficult to assemble parcels
 - Sugar Grove has put forth a boundary agreement with Elburn; they have vocalized support, but have not accepted it.
 - Big Rock - just closed on a boundary agreement
 - Elburn, West Aurora, Maple Park, etc. all in the same Kaneland School District
 - Programmatically:
 - Relationship with the Fox Valley Park District
 - Kaneland School District
 - Civic sports
- Q: What should be some of the primary objectives of a 10-20 year comprehensive plan for the Village?
 - Planning on where development will and can take place
 - Development that makes sense for the community
 - Diversifying while respecting the proximity to residential neighborhoods
 - What kind of industry does Sugar Grove desire to diversify the tax base?
- Running water to develop the south end of the community would be too high an investment to warrant the development

- The infrastructure exists already north of Route 30 that development can hook into
- Understanding the requirements of the kind of facilities that VoSG wants to attract ahead of time
- Not allowing the Village to get taken advantage of

Tremendous about Sugar Grove:

- Amazing Kane County Forest Preserves
- Landscape of the community

The community has wanted a pedestrian bridge

- Currently Blackberry Creek separates the north from the south and people want more accessibility across the Creek

Overall, the original land use plan and the community's growth path has been great

Back in 2018, Crown Development who owns the 880 acres at the 88 interchange

- 8 million sf of industrial/warehouse
- Community pushed back strongly against the proposed development
- 140 people signed up to speak at the community meeting about it

Higher-end look and feel to retail

- A façade program for older businesses could help improve commercial areas

Board's present makeup includes a business executive, real estate agent, architect, school teacher, attorney, and a police officer.

Another obvious desire that our community wants is "RESTAURANTS" other than the typical fast food options we have.

Again, an economic director who has many connections will help bring the right fit of restaurants in as we grow. But our community needs to understand that right now, we just don't fit the "corporate" requirements for specific restaurants we want. Even though, every restaurant that has opened has been wildly successful. Their fears of not having enough demand or rooftops is incorrect. We have so much pent-up demand for restaurants that they will be successful not only with our residents but with the tens of thousands of people that pass through our Village every day.

22-03-14 Interview with Village Board Member/President Jennifer Konen

Overall Community:

- Q: From your perspective, what are some of the biggest changes that have impacted the Village over the last ten years?
 - The lack of growth
 - 208 persons growth over ten years
 - Lack of young people
 - School numbers are down
 - Aging population (good that two senior facilities have opened)
 - Pickup in growth needed
 - Businesses have not been opening up
- Q: What do you see as the biggest challenges facing Sugar Grove in the next ten years?

- Infrastructure issues
- Lack of major utilities needed to develop properties
- Getting developers to come here without the basic horizontal infrastructure
 - Going to be expensive for them to build here
- As the community starts to grow,
 - Hiring a new economic developer
 - Whole new department set up to spearhead development
 - Ensuring growth happens in a smart way
 - Controlling what happens in terms of growth
 - Keeping things on pace with the community's expectations
- Q: Imagine you're someone who is looking for a home in the region. What are some of the things that would attract you to Sugar Grove? What might dissuade you from buying/renting here?
 - Attract:
 - Easy access on the tollway
 - Community feel, close community
 - Neighborhood size makes it feel small and easy to build community
 - Access to the outdoors (trails, forest preserves)
 - Lot size that one can buy
 - Rural and outdoor activity
 - Dissuade
 - School district is very spread out
 - From Maple Park to Montgomery
 - Development
 - Lack of diversity in the tax base
 - There is a certain mentality of folks who want to keep it like it is and have people drive to get everywhere
 - Places the community goes to for what they can't get in VoSG:
 - Batavia
 - Aurora
 - Taxes are the highest in the County
 - Not much in the way of a rental market
 - The Village is doing well on the aging market (over 55 and over 62 buildings have recently been built)
 - Seniors in some cases cannot age in place because they can't downsize
 - If you're living with mom and dad and looking to move out
- Q: From your perspective, what are some of the challenges of running or starting a business in Sugar Grove?
 - No leasable space available
 - Requires a commitment from the development community to build
 - Gap analysis has been conducted by the Next Site (partnered with Gas company) analytics firm
 - Developers don't realize there is so much through traffic; the community is still seen as very rural
 - Folks are coming from Rochelle
 - 63,000 people shop at Jewel per week
 - Businesses doing well when they open, but its hard to get businesses to open
 - There should be an appliance store, cabinet store, furniture store

- Furniture store traffic is coming from Rochelle
 - Not much business on the western side of Aurora
- Q: How would you describe the overall quality of service delivery from the Village of Sugar Grove?
 - Excellent
 - Testament to the staff
 - Public works director has been here for 18 years
 - Deputy has been here for 25 years
 - Admin has been here for 20 years
 - Staff is on top of issues right away
 - Compliments from residents all the time about maintenance, plowing, salting
 - Board is doing better
 - Water revenue is up as people are staying home more and drawing more
 - Water bill has been decreased by 3% each years
- Q: What are some of the biggest themes of concern you're hearing from your constituents?
 - Biggest one is development
 - Finding the right development so it doesn't scare residents
 - This planning process is so important to the Village and residents
 - We need a little bit of everything, but not too much of anything
 - The Village is very young and setting the tone of the place with 8m SF of warehouse space would define the place as a warehouse/distribution
 - Village leadership needs to take community through planning and growth
 - Marrying needs and wants
 - Daytime population is what retail and commercial operators want
 - How do we make decisions that bring a daytime population that can then support the kind of retail and commercial growth that residents want
 - Disagreement between older and newer residents on what the community should be
 - Older/longer-term residents want little change and prioritize green space, newer residents want growth and more activation
 - Needing more business revenue needs to be framed as a tax revenue issue
 - Taxes:
 - School district benefits from property tax
 - Retirees paying \$10k a year with no kids in the school district
 - Revenue comes from sales tax
 - Village makes more off sales tax than property tax
 - Developers need to build more
 - Existing vacant lots:
 - Fee in lieu of development
 - \$60k lot, \$20k fee, \$15.5k for FILD fee
 - Developers cannot build anything less than \$700k
- Q: Are there any recent changes to County, State, School District, or other jurisdictional policy that have significantly impacted Sugar Grove over the last five years?
 - Body cameras - equipping and housing all the footage (\$150k for this alone)
 - Local Government Distributive Fund (Governor recently brought it down to 6.1% from 8%)
 - Governor spoke about providing rebates to localities through grocery
 - Working through IML and MetroWest Council of Governments

- Q: What opportunities exist, if any, to strengthen the Village's relationship with neighboring or overlapping jurisdictions (i.e. Aurora and Kane County, respectively)?
 - It takes the entire Board connecting through
 - Development opportunities discussed across borders
 - MWCG:
 - Speak about development opportunities that are coming down the pike
 - Budget conversations (expenditures and expectations)
 - Information sharing
 - Learning from the mistakes of the other municipalities
 - How much is enough of different development types?
 - Batavia, Aurora, Yorkville are all bigger the VoSG and can provide guidance on growth
 - VoSG gets presented with opportunities for development
 - TIF established for sanitary sewer
 - Board is going to other localities to find out what incentives they are offering to development (none)
 - Prior administrations were very stringent on development (prioritizing the look and feel of development)
 - Any opposition would quash the plans
- Q: What should be some of the primary objectives of a 10-20 year comprehensive plan for the Village?
 - Board doesn't want to see happen what happened in 2014
 - Comp plan from 2005 was amended in 2014 to allow for the warehouse/distribution
 - Perception of it happening behind the backs of residents
 - Growth in the south is nearly impossible at this point because they need to get a sewer line to Jericho Road
 - The community needs to understand this
 - Comp Plan should look at areas up to Main Street in Blackberry Township
 - Interchange at I-88 is owned by Crown, already has infrastructure
 - Water into Crown's property is low-hanging fruit
 - North Aurora utilities

The community has a partnership with a data firm and learned that much of the traffic coming to Waubensee is coming from eastern Aurora.

No destination in Sugar Grove

- There is no reason for anyone outside of Sugar Grove to come here
- Pumpkin Farm is one thing
- Warehouse/distribution uses on the north side of I-88

The more we can dig into the interchange future, the better

Where should different land uses go

- Residential and retail
- Gas station on the NW corner of I-88 interchange
- Industrial, hotel, and commercial

Opportunity for a "Town Square" at the interchange (commit to the developer that the Village will also invest)

- Ties into the trails
- Forest on the property (trail system through forest)
- Commercial activity
- Amphitheatre (ice-skating rink)
- 13-acre pond where boat racing could happen

Events:

- Food Truck Fridays
- Corn Boil Event
- Groovin' in the Grove

Main Street:

- There are not many businesses
- Residents want something like 3rd Street in Geneva
- Façade program needed

Sugar Grove does not have a downtown, so it is more conducive to an "activated pockets" approach to placemaking.

The community struggles with what goes in the center of the Village, as it's the center but it's next to the airport.

22-03-16 Interview with Village Board member Jamie White

- Q: From your perspective, what are some of the biggest changes that have impacted the Village over the last ten years?
 - Lack of change here
 - Population growth was only 200ish people
 - Businesses have been fairly stagnant
- Q: What do you see as the biggest challenges facing Sugar Grove in the next ten years?
 - A lot of the residents want to keep the small town feel
 - Lots of resistance to growth from this perspective
 - Has always been a bedroom community
 - Getting people to accept that we need industrial and commercial uses can be difficult
 - Highway system goes around the Village and creates barriers between areas
 - Boundary lines are pretty much set
 - Fox Metro Sanitary Sewer system will impact development opportunities
- Q: Imagine you're someone who is looking for a home in the region. What are some of the things that would attract you to Sugar Grove? What might dissuade you from buying/renting here?
 - Attract:
 - Small town feel
 - School quality
 - Dissuade:
 - Places like the tri-cities offer small downtown areas
 - Lack of activation
 - Inability of people to gather and meet (especially at night)
 - Not a terribly strong park district or programming

- People have to leave town for kids' activities and sports
- Q: From your perspective, what are some of the challenges of running or starting a business in Sugar Grove?
 - Lack of space to open or grow
 - Only a few commercial centers in town and there is not enough speculative office, industrial, or commercial space available for rent
 - There are enough people in town to support businesses, but those people are going out of town right now to shop and seek services
 - More commercial and retail space is needed
 - Stigma associated with Sugar Grove for developers and business owners
- Q: How would you describe the overall quality of service delivery from the Village of Sugar Grove?
 - Village services are very well done.
 - Public Works is fantastic
 - Streets are best plowed in the neighborhoods
 - Some services that are not provided are the biggest complaint from citizens
- Q: What are some of the biggest themes of concern you're hearing from your constituents?
 - Surprisingly, there are not many people who call to complain
 - Out getting petitions signed, biggest concern was property taxes
 - A lot of seniors and fixed-income folks
 - Desire for more tax-generating development, but no one wants it next to them
- Q: Are there any recent changes to County, State, School District, or other jurisdictional policy that have significantly impacted Sugar Grove over the last five years?
 - In the positive, when the State switched to taxing online and internet sales, based on where the goods were being shipped vs where they were originating, it created a new stream of income for the Village
 - Largely residential makeup of the community
- Q: What opportunities exist, if any, to strengthen the Village's relationship with neighboring or overlapping jurisdictions (i.e. Aurora and Kane County, respectively)?
 - Just a matter of relationships
 - Village president understands this whereas the previous administration was less collaborative
 - Great Village Board, everyone listens and generally agrees
 - Current Village president is doing a lot to keep people together.
- Q: What should be some of the primary objectives of a 10-20 year comprehensive plan for the Village?
 - Roadmap for development
 - Development attorney
 - If you want to develop this area, this is what you have to do there
 - If it doesn't fit then you have to identify a reason for why it doesn't
 - Example: At the corner of 47 and Harter Road
 - Old gravel pit
 - Prior comp plan called for apartments here - proximity to college
 - Company came along who wanted to fill the pit
 - Maybe because of the water table and contamination, it was determined it wasn't a good idea to dig
 - All properties come with issues
 - Office is right in the municipal areas, large commercial operators wanted to come

- People think these businesses were run off, but they weren't
- The soil was bad
- The rail spur construction was prohibitive for the ROI
 - Looking closely at properties reveals that maybe it doesn't work
- Trying to change commercial to residential property because of characteristics
 - Municipal road properties weren't right for commercial
 - Board was reluctant to convert commercial to residential
 - Only decided to after landfill was proposed

Recent Board meeting:

- Developer brought the proposal for development east of the airport
- Quite surprised how the Board told him they were not interested in their proposal
- Property next to the airport and in a flight path, market feasibility
- Was going to be a Walmart and a shopping center, but that went away
- Property is sandwiched between residential neighborhoods
- Some members of the board just want to see it developed

Trying to figure out where to put things and having a corresponding desire from the development community to want to build what the community wants is a tricky balance

- Can't just hide or put far away the things we need

One of the things that challenged the Village before was that the previous mayor was a builder

- Came with different ideas about what needs to be built (prioritizing the same and what is easy for developers)
- Norris Design out of Denver came in proposing tighter neighborhoods, which much of the Board thought were good and interesting new products
- What do millennials look for in a house in the suburbs?
- How is the world changing?
- Good quality products

Fresh ideas and densities are needed

- Things that will support the businesses that are here and can move here

22-03-17 Interview with Park District - Karen Pritchard

- Q: How long have you worked at the Sugar Grove Park District?
 - Passed a referendum to form it in 2003
 - Since the beginning
- Q: In your time, what changes have you seen take place in the Sugar Grove Park District?
 - Grew from a volunteer board and staff (construction trailer) to five full time staff, 30ish part time staff
 - 18 parks (including playgrounds in the village)
- Q: How do you describe the extent of the population served by the Sugar Grove Park District?
 - Pretty close to the boundaries of the Sugar Grove Township
 - Population of the Park District is closer to 20,000
- Q: Who are the primary users of the Sugar Grove Park District?
 - Elementary school level children

- Largest population group is young, also families
- Before and after school programs
 - 1. Enrichment programs
- 4 elementary schools
- All of Kaneland Public Schools
- Cradle to grave (children to seniors)
- Q: Anything that people visit from outside the community?
 - No out of district rates
 - Tee ball teams come from others
 - All programming open to everyone until filling up locally
 - Surrounding areas:
 - 1. Aurora
 - 2. Montgomery
 - 3. Elburn
 - 4. Big Rock

Park System:

- Q: What are the strengths and weaknesses of the Sugar Grove park system?
 - Strengths:
 - 1. Intergovernmental agreement with Fox Valley Park District (3rd largest in the state, whereas SG is the second smallest in the state)
 - 2. Residents of SG district can go to Fox Valley programming for the same rate as the Fox Valley tax paying residents
 - 3. Administration building
 - Weaknesses:
 - 1. Not a lot of facilities
 - 2. No gyms, community center
 - 3. Beg, borrow and steal for all facility use
 - 4. Most sharing with schools
 - 5. Amount of money they get from taxes
 - 6. EAV is low (double whammy on budgeting and finances)
 - 7. Hoping for lots of EAV
 - 8. Inherited playgrounds from the Village at referendum
 - 1. 15 playgrounds on a 15-year cycle
 - 2. Looking for grants for replacement
- How well used are the district's parks and recreation fields and courts?
 - Playgrounds are neighborhood parks are used by families
 - Two community parks are more used by athletic fields
 - The biggest need back in 2003 was for baseball fields, it was a big baseball town
 - Less recreation needs locally, but more rental from traveling groups
- Based on your experience, are present park system funding levels adequate to meet the needs and desires of served populations?
 - No
- What future changes are you anticipating to park spaces and resources?
 - Revamp a new park every other year
 - Need a state or federal grant to supplement money
 - Prioritizing parks that need to be replaced according to life cycle

Programming:

- Q: What kind of programming and events does the district offer today?
 - Biggest programming and revenue draw is the before and after school program:
 - Pre-COVID: 4 elementary schools (two Elburn and one Montgomery)
 - Athletics (baseball, softball, tee ball)
 - Youth and adult
 - Contract out programming to independent contractors (dance gymnastics, yoga, arts and crafts, STEM classes - emphasis on elementary students).
- Q: Does Sugar Grove engage in any formal partnerships with private institutions or neighboring/overlapping jurisdictions?
 - Yes.
 - Part of Special Recreation Association
 - One of 7 members who partner with Fox Valley Special Rec to provide services to special needs populations
 - Intergovernmental agreement with Kaneland Schools
- Q: Where do most Village residents go for recreational programming that isn't offered by Sugar Grove?
 - Private entities
 - Gymnastic Gym
 - Waubensee Fitness Center was a big one, but it closed
 - Was open to community
 - Fitness centers and pools
 - Yorkville Water Park
 - Swimming lessons at Vaughn Center
 - Fox Valley Park District

Community Needs/Desires:

- What are you hearing most from community members that they would like to see enhanced or added to the Sugar Grove Park system?
 - Updated parks
 - Last two years with Covid, they couldn't use schools and facilities
 - Couldn't have face-to-face programming
 - Put a spotlight on the parks
 - Old
 - Need updates/revamping
 - Forefront of most people's minds
- What kind of park or recreational programming is most needed/desired in the community?
 - Every survey they have done, people ask for a pool
 - Means you need a recreation center, which makes taxes go up
 - Swimming is in high demand generally
- What kind of events would you like to see happen in the community that you don't have the space or resources for now?
 - Sugar Grove is very resourceful
 - Corn Boil is kind of jammed into a small park
 - Something with a stage or bandshell and more space to host large events
 - Groovin' in the Grove: Right now, using a mobile stage borrowed from Oswego Park District
 - Pulled into the parking lot of the library right now
 - A facility would be nice

- Pools and indoor facilities
- People want a recreation center that allows for running a full track and play basketball

Strategic Comprehensive Plan

- Required to have the master plan to apply for grants
- Park District will be finished by June.
- Staff of five people so can't dedicate as much time.

22-03-18 Interview with Cort Carlson

Background:

- Q: What are your priorities as the ED of the Aurora Area Convention & Visitor's Bureau?
 - Ultimate goal is to bring visitors to the region
 - People who stay in hotel rooms
 - All funding comes from hotel/motel tax (State taxes)
 - People who stay in hotels are spending money elsewhere
 - Do what they have to offer in the area
 - Build the tax base through tourism
- Q: What are some of the unique offerings to tourists and visitors to the Aurora Area?
 - Yorkville - Raging Waves Water Park
 - Largest outdoor water park in IL
 - Chicago Premium Outlet Mall
 - Largest in the Midwest
 - Local destination
 - Concentrates on Sports Marketing
 - Stuart Sports Complex
 - Youth and amateur sports
 - Fourth largest outdoor complex in the county
 - Finding tournaments that can host in these facilities
 - Primarily travel teams (spending a weekend or week in the area)
 - LaCrosse, baseball, ultimate frisbee, disc golf
 - Sports marketing is the primary generator of overnight stays in the region
- Q: What role do the area's smaller western communities (including Sugar Grove) play in the overall Aurora area's tourism, visitation, and convention business?
 - Everybody has something to add to the destination
 - Interchange at Route 47 is a huge deal for them
 - Longstanding family entertainment center on Route 47
 - Aurora Airport in Sugar Grove
 - Great access as needed
 - Nice to have
 - Air Classics Museum
 - Great regional attraction
 - Some dining and restaurants
 - Yorkville and western Aurora visitors
 - Waubesa College has really nice venues
 - Tournaments
 - Meeting space

Tourism & Visitation:

- Q: What brings tourists and visitors to the Aurora area?
 - Sports is the niche market
 - Leisure travel marketing - draw people to the region for family getaway, local events, Corn Boil
 - Chicagoland residents
 - Can't track these people (website traffic and information requests are tracked)
 - Sports tournaments can be tracked from start to finish
- Q: What changes had you seen in convention, tourism, and visitation to the region in the ten years preceding the pandemic?
 - Lot of complete remarketing/refocusing of the convention bureau
 - Had been upheaval in the organization before and there was no focus
 - Realized that the sports venues were the number one resource
 - Created the Aurora Area Sports Commission
- Q: What impact has the pandemic had on tourism, visitation, and convention business in the Aurora area?
 - Like everything it was a virtual shutdown of business
 - Tourism, travel, and hospitality was the hardest hit industry
 - Hotel revenue was down 70% at the peak of the virus
 - None of the hotels closed
 - Lots of time rescheduling and moving things forward
 - 45% decrease in state grant funding
 - Locally, the impact was 40% reduced
 - Half the budget
- Q: What changes do you foresee to conventions, tourism, and visitation to the region in the next ten years?
 - Lots of discussion in Aurora about the redevelopment of meeting and convention space
 - May give the Bureau the opportunity to shift more towards meetings and conferences
 - Development of the far western communities will impact this
 - Especially as people realize they don't need to live downtown
 - New businesses that come to the area
 - Route 47 interchange is primed for development
 - Hotels and commercial development
 - Eastern neighbors like Naperville and East Aurora are already built out
 - New energy and interest in development is moving west
- Q: Who are your target markets for increasing tourism, convention traffic, and visitation to the Aurora region?
 - Sports venues
 - Stuart is a national brand now, more interest will come
 - Baseball event is coming here (one of only five in the area)
 - Weeklong event
 - How can we use other venues
 - Great volleyball venue
 - Youth sports are coming back and interest in the region is increasing
 - Show the need for new development in these venues

Policies & Partnerships:

- Q: What, in your opinion, is needed from local and regional governments to increase tourism and visitation over the next few years?
 - Looking at balancing the needs of residents with visitors
 - If it's a nice place to visit it's probably a nice place to live
 - Focus on what is going to make this region different from any other suburban context in Chicagoland?
 - We need unique offerings
 - More things that can draw people here so they then use the commodity services and destinations
 - One regional umbrella of tourism
 - Not just Aurora
 - Also Farnsworth House in Plano
 - Might eat in north Aurora
 - More hotel rooms needed
 - For the second largest city in the state, there are only 800 rooms
 - Six hotels in the city
 - 1,200 hotel rooms in the entire region
 - Maybe 500-600 rooms locally for sports tournaments, the rest of the visitors leave.
- Q: What is needed to strengthen partnerships between municipalities and organizations focused on increasing tourism and visitation to the Aurora area?
 - No one is more important than anyone else
- Q: How, if at all, can the Aurora Municipal Airport be better utilized to achieve your goals for future tourism, visitation, and convention business in the area?
 - If it could become a fly-in start for day trips and day tourism
 - Shuttles for local tourism (water park, sports venues, dining)
 - How do you get them from the airport to the destinations
 - Large-scale events based around air travel
 - WWII fly in
 - Skydiving
 - Use the grounds for more than just corporate jets
- Q: From your perspective, what should be some of the top priorities for Sugar Grove's comprehensive plan if it aims to offer more to locals and visitors in the future?
 - Hotels and lodging (especially at the new interchange)
 - Waubesa College conference center is underutilized
 - Hard to sell as a conference location when there is no hotel nearby
 - Developing the corridor as a downtown
 - Building off the historic core
 - Give people a reason to visit for an afternoon
 - Signage!!
 - What is here, how do I find it.

Q: What else do we need to know?

- VoSG is a great community
- Has always been considered a bedroom community for the region
- Could be more
- What can we do about the overpass that goes through town and is kind of ugly
 - Breaks up town

- Can it be better utilized for signage, lighting, public art, something to make it more visually beautiful
- Plans for more of a village center at the interchange
 - Partnership up and down Route 47

22-03-18 Interview with Chad Steward (NIFB)

- Q: How long have your organizations been active in the region?
 - NIFB has been in the area for 45 years
 - Feeding America food banks broken down by region
 - Two might merge to bring areas together
 - Collar counties of Chicagoland
 - 13 counties to the west out to Stevenson County
- Q: How would you describe the extent of the community your organization serves?
 - Mix of urban communities closer to Chicago
 - Very rural outer communities
 - VoSG is ruralish
 - Mix of the community is higher-priced housing
 - Ag-central community (farmland all around)
 - Main means of transportation is by car as there is no transit
- Q: Where do your resources come from?
 - Funding (80%) comes from donors (individual, foundations, companies)
 - Some grant funding, but very specific
 - Staff of 200 (full time and part time)
 - 15,000 volunteers that come through the doors every year
 - Services:
 - 900 members of food pantry, feeding site, program feeding site
 - Food pantries: Between Friends in Sugar Grove is traditional food pantry
 - Plenty of gaps in the traditional food pantry network
 - School programs for after school snacks
 - Traditional soup kitchen
 - Food bank is core service
 - Considering job training
- Q: What percentage of the folks served are unhoused?
 - Cannot provide an estimate.
- Q: How much of your served population do you think comes from the Village of Sugar Grove?
 - Between Friends residents go to this one.

Community Needs:

- Q: Which groups in the region are most in need of your services? Has this changed much in the last ten years?
 - Hunger affects everyone
 - Not just lower income folks
 - Someone who had a six figure job and lost it and needs to feed the families
 - Spans the spectrum
 - Food pantries are usually a stop-gap between other means of supporting oneself
 - Typically, people use food pantries for only a month or so
 - Consistent across the region and over time

- Not a tenable situation
- Q: How have affordability challenges (housing, transportation, inflation) impacted your served community over the last ten years?
 - Major economic events are always corollary with increases in usage
 - 30% uptick in intake over the last few weeks (inflation, gas prices)
 - Something that creates job creation or job loss
 - Anything that impacts family budgets
 - Decreases when good governmental programs
 - Child tax credit alleviated demand
 - When SNAP benefits increase, there is a decrease in the number of neighbors served
- Q: How has the pandemic impacted your served communities and service delivery over the last two years?
 - Food banks have had a lot of support
 - Able to do more because of the monetary donations they were able to receive
 - Economic challenges came and went during previous major changes
 - More local donors came out than had been seen in their history
 - Increase operational capacity and output
 - More programs to exist and more food going out
 - Can do more with more
 - Supply chain difficulties resulting from larger trends
 - Resources are there to purchase and recover donated food
- Q: What do you see as the biggest challenges facing your served communities and your ability to deliver services in the next ten years?
 - 61% of people in need aren't accessing the local charity food network
 - As orgs get more mobile
 - Transportation distribution sets will be a challenge
 - Very difficult last few years in terms of logistics
 - Getting the food out
 - Never enough trucks or drivers
 - Traditional food pantry sites
 - Food pantries are staffed by older folks
 - Some pass on to next generation, some don't
 - Age gap between who is running the pantries (same folks doing it for the last 25 years)
 - Finding replacements outside organic chance is tough
 - Reaching some neighbors who are today difficult to get to
 - Exploring mobile distribution opportunities
 - Home delivery through partnership with Door Dash
 - Offered to people with physical or time limitations
 - Paying them through a generous partnership
 - How do we reach the 61% that is not being reached?
 - How do we serve those who don't have the ability to reach the traditional avenues?

Comprehensive Planning:

- Q: What are some of the biggest themes of concern you're hearing from your served populations?
 - Between Friends is space limited
 - Dry storage is limited
 - Township support
 - Building provided
 - Incubator for existing or new food pantry
 - Budget for freezers and coolers?
 - Working with existing food pantries and allowing a space to grow organically
 - Township support and in-kind (longstanding relationship with the city)
 - Space to grow
 - Addison Township is a great example (large cool storage space for bigger donations)
- Q: Are there any recent changes to County, State, School District, or other jurisdictional policy that have significantly impacted your services over the last several years?
 - If they have, they have been for the benefit.
 - SNAP, Farm Bill, etc. have increased recently
 - CFAP during the start of the pandemic
 - Purchased food through the supply chain and brought it to the food banks and other outlets
 - Farmers and ag folks are paid for their services and food pantries can distribute
- Q: What should be some of the primary objectives of a 10-20 year comprehensive plan for the Village from your perspective?
 - Accessibility
 - City is very reliant on driving and that leaves a large population underserved
 - Between Friends Food Pantry is not walkable
 - Making things more pedestrian friendly
 - This is that 61%
- Q: Who, in your opinion, will be difficult to reach as part of our engagement efforts in this planning process? How can we better reach them?
 - People who could best answer this are local
 - Same people who are hard to reach are the ones who are hard for the food pantry to reach
 - Even reaching a small modicum of the folks who Chad needs
 - Only limited engagement at Chad's level

Q: What else do we need to know or think about?

- Accessibility is huge - needs to be a key focus
- No bridge to cross the Road on the Virgil Gilman trail
- Pedestrian bridge across 47
- Tying subdivisions together
- Tying the retail side of the community together
 - Open up access to folks who aren't today able to reach more of the community
 - Trails and sidewalks today don't permit this
 - Cannot get to resources
- Village-related:
 - Provide space or land for these services
 - Communicate that they are invested in health
 - Budgeted for every year

- Something an operator can come in and use

22-03-18 Interview with Michael Isaacson (County Health)

- Q: How would you describe the community the Department serves?
 - Kane County
 - Coming out of Covid has presented a lot of new challenges
 - The last two years have been rough on people mentally and particularly on the business community
 - In a period of growth and reframing
 - Political divisiveness is playing an increasingly important role
 - Creates a lot of strain on people and doesn't have a positive
- Q: Where do your resources come from? What partnerships do you have?
 - Federal grants, state grants, private foundation grants, user fees (restaurant fees, local tax dollars)
 - Partnerships:
 - Working with topic-specific partners
 - Early childhood network that is countywide
 - Behavioral health countywide
 - Opioid addiction countywide
 - Community organization grants made available]
 - Work with chambers of commerce countywide
 - Working with municipalities on local policies
 - Responsiveness to specific requests for assistance from local operators
- Q: In your opinion, are the Department's current funding levels sufficient to meet the needs of your served populations?
 - No - behavioral health was identified as the number one health priority
 - County does not have sufficient resources to meet the needs of residents
- Q: Which methods of communicating with your served populations do you find to be most effective?
 - Utilize digital communication, including email
 - Social media and twitter are great methods
 - Electronic fliers are sent out to people
 - Recently Zoom and virtual meetings are great forums for having people join us
 - In-person public forums
 - Well-attended pre-pandemic

Community Needs:

- Q: What are the biggest personal and public health issues/concerns facing Kane County residents today?
 - Community health assessment completed in 2021
 - Mental and behavioral health and substance abuse is #1
 - Access to health services was priority #2
 - Immunizations and infectious diseases is #3
 - Exercise, nutrition, and health weight is #4
- Q: What are the biggest environmental health issues/concerns facing Kane County residents today?
 - Access to affordable and healthy food

- Carcinogens in the air
- Ozone air quality
- Liquor store density
- Access to farmers markets
- Grocery store density
- Overcrowded households
- Housing affordability
- More concern about global warming and the impact on local weather and on mental health
 - More car dependence
- Q: Which groups in the region are most in need of the County's health services? Has this changed much in the last ten years?
 - For some issues, the need is pretty widespread
 - Mental health - everyone
 - From a public health perspective, lower income individuals often need more assistance
 - Physical activity and substance abuse issues (and mental health) cross all demographic and income lines
- Q: How have affordability challenges (housing, transportation, inflation) impacted your served communities over the last ten years?
 - For access to services, affordability continues to be an issue
 - Transportation to services continues to be identified as a barrier
 - Lack of affordable housing is an issue
 - As inflation and gas prices rise, folks are starting to complain about it
- Q: How has the pandemic impacted your service delivery over the last two years?
 - Diverted a lot of resources from regular programming to focusing on the pandemic
 - In terms of partnerships, it has had a big impact as more organizations were in survival mode and didn't have the capacity or interest in exploring more proactive or new initiatives.
 - Divisiveness and lack of trust that blossomed over the course of the pandemic (mandates, vaccines) will have long-term impacts on the Departments ability to deliver relevant information to people.
 - Nobody wants to hear about evidence. Everyone has their own new way of receiving and having faith in information.
- Q: What do you see as the biggest challenges facing your served communities and your ability to deliver services in the future?
 - Information delivery, trust, communication

Comprehensive Planning:

- Q: What are some of the biggest themes of concern you're hearing from your served populations?
 - Angst around the uncertainty around the pandemic
 - There are people who are concerned about their health and the health of loved ones
 - Other people who aren't concerned about health aspects, but more concerned about mandates and pandemic-related limitations on life
- Q: What should be some of the primary objectives of a 10-20 year comprehensive plan for the Village from your perspective?
 - Keeping a focus on emerging issues around technology and remote work
 - What does planning look like with the increasing pressures for more remote options

- Shaping the built environment around issues of access to healthy foods and active lifestyles
- Senior living and options that allow people to age in place
- Addressing issues of isolation and loneliness in older citizens
- Balancing the needs of people today with needs of people tomorrow
- Q: Who, in your opinion, might be difficult to reach as part of our engagement efforts in this planning process? How can we better reach them?
 - People who are less likely to engage are those who aren't interested in growth or planning
 - Find it challenging to reach undocumented population
 - Seniors who tend to be a little more homebound

22-03-21 Interview with Janice Hill, Kane County Executive Planner and Farmland Protection Manager

Background:

- Q: What are the objectives of your office?
 - 2040 plan for the County
 - Conceptual land use strategy came out of a few documents uncovered from the 60s and 70s (CMAP and Kane County)
 - Identify the quality soils in Kane and all neighboring counties
 - Also identifies water quality and agriculture productivity
 - Plans recommend that agriculture be a permanent land use
 - Working with communities to continue these land uses
 - Program is an implementation program for that policy
 - Permanent land use, valid land use because of its high soil quality
 - Agriculture viability
 - Improving practices for better soil and water quality
 - Preparing agriculture for the next generation of farmers
 - All of these things become critical for human and nature
 - Reaching IL nutrient management reduction goals
 - Cleaning up water on the urban and the rural side
 - People looking to farmers (carbon capture)
 - Presents challenges and opportunities
 - Kane County has not had the best practices in the past, but new generation of farmers has instituted some changes
 - Prior to the recession, there was a lot of speculation that didn't manifest

Present:

- Q: How would you describe the composition of agriculture in and around the Village of Sugar Grove today?
 - Family farms
 - Balance of where we are going to see growth and how will they use open land around the edges as they fade into agricultural lands
 - Working with one farm right now (100+ years, south of Air Classics)
 - Putting it back in regenerative organic farming
 - 60-80 acres
- Q: How has the agriculture and local food landscape changed in southern Kane County in the last decade?

- More progressive farming practices
- Priorities have changed from consumers (local, organic)
- Managing development on all sides of farms
- Preparing neighbors for how to live in a semi-rural environment
 - Are people ready to live next to working farms
- Q: What are some of the biggest challenges facing farmers in southern Kane County today?
 - Gray water used to hydrate a golf course causes problems for organic farming next door
 - Not discussed in general planning guidance
 - Won't just be dense residential and commercial development, but a transition needs to be managed
 - Want synergy between uses, not conflict
 - Transition to make the cost of transitioning to more sustainable/conservation-minded projects
 - Private and public sources do not cover the costs
 - Regardless of small or large farms
 - Transitioning from product type to another can be difficult
 - Land use changes taking shape
- Q: How do you expect further community growth in Sugar Grove to affect farming in southern Kane County in the future?
 - Need to think more strategically about green farming techniques and strategies that may impact farming
- Q: How do you expect agriculture and local food in southern Kane County to change in the next decade?
 - If we can provide enough incentives to make it happen (through federal government) there will be more agriculture
 - Some colleagues believe there won't be corn and soybeans in 50 years
- Q: What opportunities exist for more future-oriented agriculture and local food production in Sugar Grove and southern Kane County?
 - Farmers market with an eco-fueling station
 - Walk through a pollinator path
 - Pick up local products
 - Rural/ag-based activities/destinations
 - Recreation and agriculture together

22-03-21 Interview with Dominic Cattero, Settler's Ridge

- Q: What brought you to the Village originally? Why did you choose Sugar Grove?
 - Chose VoSG because of the location and access to the city
 - Easy to get to the city when they wanted that type of environment and amenities
 - Low-key, calm everyday living
 - Could be downtown in 70 minutes (45 minutes in good conditions)
 - Close to Naperville
 - Quiet and full of open space
 - Walking paths in the subdivision
 - Cultural things being closer
- In your opinion, what differentiates Sugar Grove from other communities in the region?
 - All of the above
 - Going slightly east offers busier life, but open space and recreation is a VoSG amenity

- Q: If you were looking to move at any point in the near future, what would you look for in another community that Sugar Grove lacks today?
 - More things to do (stores, restaurants)
 - Ease of access to retail, restaurants
 - Bridge to get over Route 47 on bike
 - Connective paths for walking and biking to destinations
- Q: What are the biggest challenges facing homeowners in Sugar Grove today?
 - Sometimes people don't feel connected to the Village enough or the location enough
 - There could be more interrelations in that way
- Q: In your opinion, what are some of the essential elements that make Sugar Grove a desirable place to live today?
 - Element of community
 - Small town America is crucial
 - Growth can still happen
 - Incubators for small businesses
 - Try out small businesses in an area that they can then grow out of
 - Downtown area becomes where successful businesses can move after experimenting
- Q: How have recent real estate and market dynamics affected homeowners in Sugar Grove?
 - Homeownership has increased
 - Can get very affordable housing in VoSG
 - Same house could be nearly double the price in communities 20 minutes east of VoSG
 - Ryan Homes model just opened and seven lots have already sold
 - People desire things when they are looking to move, and they are finding them in Sugar Grove
 - Look towards growth
- Q: Who does Sugar Grove's present housing composition serve? Who does it not serve?
 - Serves:
 - Single family homes (families)
 - Townhomes (younger, older, newlyweds)
 - Ranches (older people)
 - Heavy on the family homes
 - More senior living available with new senior housing complexes
 - Does not serve:
 - More housing needed for starter homes
 - People just out of school/married may not be able to afford something starting in the 400's
- Rate of rental:
 - Not many rentals
 - Five or six rented units
 - Majority is the townhomes
 - Immediately rented when available

Comprehensive Planning:

- Q: What kind of housing products are most needed in Sugar Grove today?
 - VoSG is good on the cookie-cutter homes
 - Subdivisions that are more unique and custom-built exterior
 - Affordable unique neighborhoods (500-600k)

- Don't need more \$1.5 million custom neighborhoods
- Product popularity
 - Everything is flying off the market
 - Everything is gone after two days on the market
 - The charm of the community is the mix of different product (duplex next to single family next to townhouse)
 - Creates a unique type of community that is diverse
 - Harkens back to old Americana
 - More of this would be good on the business side as well
 - No more blocky buildings (wants a code that creates a unique style)
 - A unique esthetic
 - Design guidelines
- Q: What is most needed in Sugar Grove today and in the future to support existing residents?
 - Ability to maneuver the Village in multiple ways, not just by car
 - Business incubation - allow people to live and work in the Village
- Q: What do you expect to be the biggest challenges facing Sugar Grove homeowners in the next decade?
 - Going to be growth and it will happen whether people want it to or not
 - Some people have been there for 40-50 years
 - Reconciling the disagreement between people who want growth and people who don't
 - There is going to be an infusion of young people to the Village (student ages)
 - Providing good, wholesome things for young people to do
 - Diversity of experience will be essential to keep it from being just a bedroom community
 - Planning for greater diversity in residential population
- Q: From your perspective, what should be some of the priorities of Sugar Grove's next Comprehensive Plan?
 - One reason they almost didn't move to VoSG was because there was no downtown place
 - Nothing that would have been in "our town"
 - What they call the downtown is not a downtown
 - Where does the center of activity, heart of the community go?
 - Real estate has to be dedicated for that purpose
 - When people refer to downtown, they are referring to the area where Fireside is

22-03-29 Interview with Ken Anderson & Monica Meyers - Kane County Forest Preserves

- Q: Who are the primary users of Kane County Forest Preserves?
 - Public land holder
 - Predominantly County residents
 - Some outside the county, including visitors from out of State
 - Some people come from outside the country
- Q: How do you describe the population served by the County's southern-most Forest Preserves (e.g. Aurora West, Bliss Woods, Sauer (pronounced Sour) Prairie, Big Rock)?
 - Mostly the residents of the area
 - No facilities in the south
 - Fox Valley ice rink
 - Campground brings in people from out of County

- Q: What are the primary sources of funding for acquiring, operating, and maintaining the County's Forest Preserves
 - Primary is taxes through the tax levy
 - Farming
 - Facilities
 - Land acquisition is always through bonds/referendum
- Q: Are funding levels adequate to meet your needs?
 - No
- Q: Does Kane County Forest Preserves provide any programming or events associated with its regular operations?
 - Yes
 - Nature center
 - Nature programs
 - School programs
 - Special events
 - Programs and activities are well-attended.
- Q: What are the strengths and weaknesses of the Kane County Forest Preserve system?
 - Strengths:
 - Through master planning process, they have gone through an extensive program for improvements
 - Tackling priorities one at a time
 - Conditions are good to excellent
 - ADA updates are underway
- Q: What feedback or requests do you hear most frequently from users of Kane County's southern-most Forest Preserves?
 - Surveys don't ask about specific areas
 - Campground surveys at Big Rock are very positive
 - People are looking for additional amenities at
 - Showers at the campground
 - Nothing that rises to the top as far as needing improvement at traditional forest preserves.
- Q: What kind of partnerships, if any, do Kane County Forest Preserves have with localities?
 - Yes, too many to list
 - Agreements with every park system and municipalities
 - Very special project:
 - Partnership with VoSG bridge over Blackberry Creek
 - Township, Park District are other partners
 - The Village is the lead
 - Current agreement is expired (Phase 1)
 - Next amendment is bidding and construction
- Q: How do you see the Forest Preserve System changing/improving over the next decade?
 - Looking at the vision of what's been happening, they have been trying to expand existing Forest Preserves
 - Larger, more wildlife habitats, accommodating more human services
 - Big Rock has recently grown
 - Growth of these Preserves helps people all over
 - Big picture: connecting humanity to nature

- Been in land-acquisition mode for some time
 - Expanding to the south
 - New campground at Big Rock opened about five years ago
 - Master plan was just updated in January
 - 5-year plan
 - Continue to purchase land
 - Continue to explore trail connections
 - People corridors
 - Wildlife corridors
- Q: What effect do you expect growth in the County will have on its Forest Preserve system in the next decade?
 - More use of the Preserves
 - More maintenance and needs for improvements
 - They have money for acquisitions and for use and maintenance
 - Added use to the facilities and resources
 - 8,900 acres of land turned into 23,000 over twenty years (fifth referendum since '99)
 - Continued success in referenda is a sign that people like what's being done with their money and want more
 - Sugar Grove area is unique as it has the Virgil Gilman Trail, connects to other trails
 - Working on the Mid-county trails
 - Now it's a matter of maintaining use and adding additional lands
- Q: What opportunities exist to better connect the Forest Preserves around Sugar Grove to the community?
 - Bridge over the Blackberry trail
 - Majority of this is done by the Village and growth
 - Private developments are responsible for most of the connections to existing trails and they work with KCFP
 - How do you connect people and their homes to trails?
 - This becomes an issue for the Village
 - Neighborhood connectivity to on-road connections
 - KCFP only puts trails on the roadway when a Preserve is on the roadway
 - The Village needs to decide how to make local connections to regional trails
 - Regional plans that show trail systems need to be worked out with the Forest Preserve system
 - Streets without sidewalks present issues
 - Trails means for both bikes and pedestrians
 - Connecting people to their parks within municipalities is another important way to get people connected
- Q: What should be some of the Village's priorities relative to the County's Forest Preserves in the forthcoming Comprehensive Plan?
 - Connectivity to the preserves
 - Depending on how development goes
 - Rich Harvest Farms and Big Rock curtail western expansion
 - Wildlife corridors need to be considered
 - Transitional uses between growth and existing Forest Preserves
 - Perimeter planning (transitioning)
- Q: Do you foresee any major changes with farming in the area?
 - Farming is a land management tool for KCFP, not an active pursuit.

Q: Anything else we need to know?

- Check out the latest master plan from January.

22-04-15 Interview with Janice Hill, Air Classics Museum

Follow-up with Air Classics for more official interview

Janice's fiancé is on the Board

- Also owns and operates own museum
- Illinois Signal Corps Coordination Museum
- Not a physical museum

Many of the planes are on loan (permanent) from the federal government

Air Classics Museum is on a lease with the City of Aurora

Talk to the Air Classics Board:

- Originally it was in DuPage County, but moved here

If that land is leased, what is the long-term goal or plan?

Aviation and military history museums

- Entry fees/exhibit space don't pay for the museum
- Venues within museums, special events are creating most of the revenue
- Donors?

Needed to bring in an expert to help with the museum

Dunham Fund Foundation in Aurora granted funds in 2019 for a feasibility study for a venue

- Economic impact analysis
- Relationship to the museum being rebuilt
- Adding community space
 - Military veterans needing space for healing
- Recognizing that an aviation and military history museum is a community museum, not a war museum

Report said that a venue sized in a certain way at this time could support a new museum space

Good fortune of the international museum building conference in Chicago

- February 2020
- Only non-museum design people
- Great input from all the professionals there

Project could be opened up to an international audience with an eye to the future

Museum design people put proposals together

Steve acquired two planes from RI that are out on the field

Lewis University Dept of Aviation contacted
Bunker Labs - Military Veteran Incubator for jobs

Planes are sitting out there

Last few months, they got back in touch with Matt Franklin at Lewis University

- Take the planes apart and put them back together
 - Had seen this being done at universities elsewhere
 - People were watching other people work on their planes

Have to pick four or five pieces that tell a story and put the rest in storage

Report says is the attraction and the exhibit space is filling it in

Bliss Woods Forest Preserve:

- Pilot program for veterans in forest preserve
 - Didn't work

Lewis University would consider a permanent space in Sugar Grove

Mike Lumin - President of Air Classics

- Just sold to another company
- There is space over in the air business campus
- Willing to give that space to Lewis for students to be able to work on planes

Need for aviation mechanics is driving more people seeking jobs in the field

Steve, Mike, and Matt are all working together to bring these things together

Matt had students come out and take a look at planes, do the research about them, and something related to it would be their "thesis"

There is an EDI grant coming out of Washington that is due today

- Planning grant
- Public private partnership
- Analysis
- Recognizing the venue study that was done and that it needs to be redone given COVID
- Recognizing ongoing work
- Asking for funds to elevate the project and get the economic analysis
- Impact analysis for this
- Bringing in the museum consulting people to do visioning work
- What other kind of land uses would be attractive to the area

Satellite locations outside the Town Center project:

- Forest Preserve

Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan

Community Workshop #1 – Event Summary

Event Date & Time:

Monday, March 14, 2022 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Event Location:

Sugar Grove Public Library

Event Description:

The planning team hosted a 90-minute community workshop focused on introducing the community to comprehensive planning, the planning team, and the key topic areas of the Village's ongoing comprehensive planning effort. Community participants were presented with information to provide a foundational understanding of the scope and scale of the planning work and to better understand their present and future opportunities to engage with the plan's development. Attendees were invited to engage directly with the planning team through a variety of exercises at "stations" organized around the room, in an open house format. Participants engaged with mapping activities, visual preference exercises, comment cards, and in conversation with members of the Design Workshop team and CMAP. Following the open house portion of the events, attendees were invited to report out about the conversations they had and their takeaways at a plenary session, supported by smartphone-based live-polling software, Mentimeter.

Event Agenda:

6:00pm – 6:10pm: Arrival

6:10pm – 6:15pm: Welcome, introductions, agenda overview

6:15pm – 6:30pm: Plan process & existing conditions overview

6:30pm – 7:00pm: Plan stations (10 minutes each: brief presentation followed by facilitated exercises)

7:00pm – 7:10pm: Revisit your favorite station and engage more deeply (free time)

7:10pm – 7:20pm: Plenary report-out

7:20pm – 7:30pm: Next steps and Q&A

Event Topics & Themes:

- **Introduction to Comprehensive Planning**
- **Grow & Change**
 - How do we make Sugar Grove both livable to current residents in the long term while making it attractive to new generations of residents?
 - If growth or change is to happen in Sugar Grove, where should it take shape?
 - Which development forms are right for Sugar Grove?
- **Move & Play**
 - How can Sugar Grove become more accessible/traversable to more people?
 - What recreational resources or programs are most in need of enhancement or investment?
- **Gather & Prosper**

- Where and how can we activate Sugar Grove?
- Where in the region do you go for dining, shopping, and entertainment?

Event Summary:

Attendance: Approximately thirty members of the Sugar Grove community attended the first workshop. Attendees ranged in age from small children to senior citizens. Among those in attendance were Village residents, Village staff, Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee members, elected leaders, and community service providers. The number of participants was well-apportioned for the planned exercises and anticipated level of engagement between community members and the planning team.



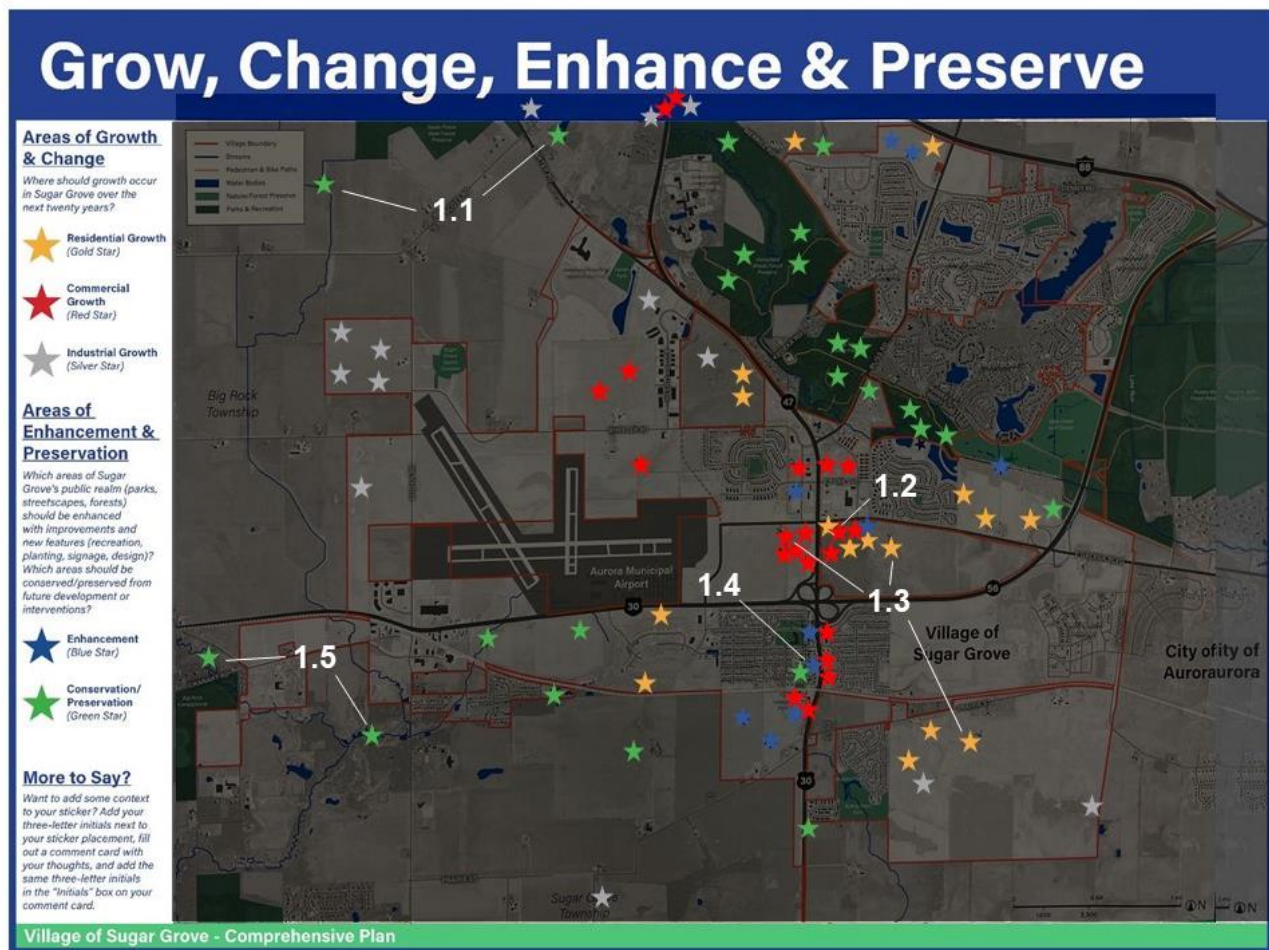
Activities & Takeaways: Each community participant was given the opportunity to spend up to twenty minutes at each workshop “station” to learn about the topic, discuss key issues, opportunities, and concerns with the planning team, and engage with topical exercises focused on planning and prioritization. The summaries below are organized by the three workshop stations and the final plenary report-out session.

Station 1: Grow & Change

At the Grow & Change station, community members were presented with figures related to growth in the Village over the last two decades and growth projections over the next 25 years. Participants were asked to think about the different types of growth that can take shape in Sugar Grove in the future, where it should go, and what it should look like.

Community members engaged with a mapping exercise designed to foster conversation and elicit community priorities related to growth in the Village. Participants were presented with a base map and given colored dot stickers, each representing a different major land use category or value related to growth/change (red: commercial/retail, gray: manufacturing/industrial, yellow: residential, blue: transformation, and green: conservation/preservation).

Each participant was given two stickers of each color and invited to place them on the map to identify their preferences for where growth, transformation, or conservation/preservation could take shape in the future. The results of this exercise are displayed in the image below.



Participants were invited to provide more information related to their chosen placement of stars by adding their initials in pen next to a star and adding the same set of initials to a designated box on the comment card. The comments linked to stars placed on the Grow, Change, Enhance & Preserve mapping activity are anonymized here and reported verbatim.

- 1.1. Green stars – trying to connect green spaces – mainly corridors, wetlands, woodlands
- 1.2. Concentrate what multifamily we build near the “core” we have – the Jewel Osco block
- 1.3. Keep all the trails preserved! No big box or strip malls. Multifamily should be built along Division; Retail on 1st floor/residential on 2nd and 3rd floors; Street and along Rt. 30 south of Village Hall; Industrial/commercial growth at I-88/Rt. 47; Enhance green area along Bliss Rd.
- 1.4. Need more non-chain restaurants; Gathering places like bars and nightlife; Southwest corner of town (SW of 30/47) is cut off from rest of town.
- 1.5. (Initials illegible)

Participants were also given the opportunity to participate in a development typology preference exercise to convey their priorities related to the scale and type of residential, commercial, and retail development that takes shape in the Village in the future. Participants were presented with two boards—one featuring residential development typologies and the other featuring commercial/retail development typologies. The boards described the density, features, and trade-offs associated with each development typology. Participants were given twelve dot stickers and invited to distribute them across the boards to communicate their preferences for different future development types. The results of this exercise are displayed in the image below.



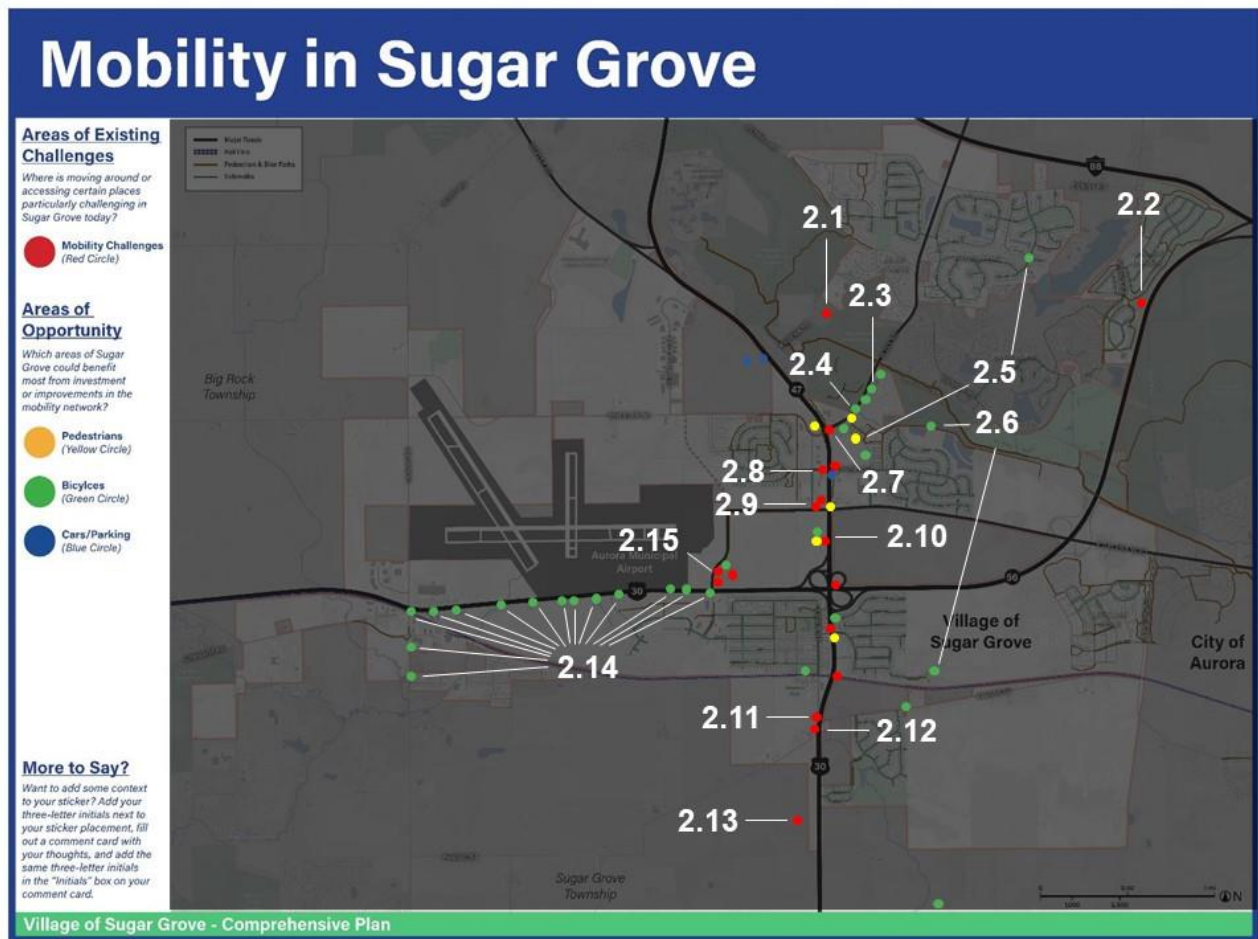
From our engagement with the community at this station, the planning team learned the following:

- There is community interest in commercial growth and development along Route 47, particularly near its intersection with US 30.
- There is community interest in new commercial growth near the airport and at the interchange of I-88 and Route 47, north of the present-day Village boundary.
- There is community interest in industrial/manufacturing growth around the airport, along Harter Road, north of the airport, and in the incorporated areas to the southeast of the Route 47 and US 30 intersection.
- There is community interest in conservation and preservation approaches in the existing forest preserve land in the north of the Village and in the lands south of the airport.
- There is community interest in transformation along Main Street, and around the intersections of Route 47.
- There is community interest in residential growth throughout the community, including along Route 47, along E Galena Boulevard, north of the existing Village boundary, south of the airport, and in the lands to the southeast of the US 30 and Route 47 interchange.

- Of the options for potential future commercial development, community participants were most interested in mixed-use retail and “Main Street” retail, and least interested in “strip mall” shopping centers, and “big box” suburban shopping centers.
- Of the options for potential future residential development, community participants were most interested in low to mid-density single family, neighborhood single family and duplex, townhouses, small-lot single family, and small-scale multifamily products, and were least interested in mid-scale mixed-use multifamily products.

Station 2: Move & Play

At the Move & Play station, community members were introduced to the Village’s existing transportation and recreational assets and conditions, including the local and regional road network, existing traffic volumes, bike infrastructure, trails, and local parks and recreational sites.



Participants were invited to provide more information related to their chosen placement of dot stickers by adding their initials in pen next to a sticker and adding the same set of initials to a designated box on the comment card. The comments linked to stickers placed on the Mobility in Sugar Grove mapping activity are anonymized here and reported verbatim.

- 2.1. Close and connect preserve. Block piece of Kedeka to allow easy access for wildlife.
- 2.2. Needs to be easier to get on I-88 from the Hanks/Norris Roads area. Too much winding around.
- 2.3. Connecting communities along Bliss to commercial/Jewel. Also connecting Route 30 to commercial with bike/walking paths.

- 2.4. *(Illegible initials)*
- 2.5. *(A community member drew arrows on the Mobility in Sugar Grove map showing connections between the Windstone neighborhood in the north of Sugar Grove and Capitol Drive/Route 47.)*
- 2.6. Bridge over Blackberry Creek to get Windsor Point residents to Virgil Gilman Trail; Connect Old East Side to bike trail
- 2.7. Cross signal; crosswalk sign
- 2.8. Danger
- 2.9. We have a senior living facility W of Route 47 + Galena intersection, forcing its residents to cross to get to Jewel Osco.
- 2.10. *(A community member drew arrows on the Mobility in Sugar Grove map with the label "Connect!" between the intersection of Route 47 and E Galena Boulevard and the Route 47/Route 30/Route 56 interchange.)*
- 2.11. Traffic light at Park and Route 47; Road from Heartland Ind to connect to 47; Widen 47 through town south to Yorkville; Traffic light at Route 47 and Prairie.
- 2.12. Widening Route 47 south of town; Realigning Prairie Street east and west sides
- 2.13. Widen Route 47 south!
- 2.14. Bike path on Route 30 from Dugan Woods into town
- 2.15. Dangerous; walking/crossing signal

In addition to the mapping exercise, participants at the Move & Play station were invited to participate in an exercise designed to help the planning team understand the community's priorities regarding future investment in mobility infrastructure. Using colored chips representing money, participants were asked to distribute one "dollar" to four different kinds of mobility investments: automobile infrastructure, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian infrastructure, and transit infrastructure.

How should Sugar Grove invest in our mobility future?

Using your dollar, "invest" in the four mobility options (pedestrian, bicycle, automobile, and transit) according to your values and priorities for the future of the community.

How far can your dollar go?

5¢

5¢

10¢

10¢

20¢

50¢

}

\$1

Need more flexibility? Exchange larger coins for smaller ones with a planning team member.

The results of this exercise, including the total value "invested" in each type of mobility, is displayed in the image below.



Bicycle Mobility

(Bike lanes, trails, amenities, rentals, bike service)



Pedestrian Mobility

(Sidewalks, trails, sidewalk amenities, etc.)



Transit Mobility

(Connections to regional transit, local service)



Automobile Mobility

(City-owned roads, city-operated parking)



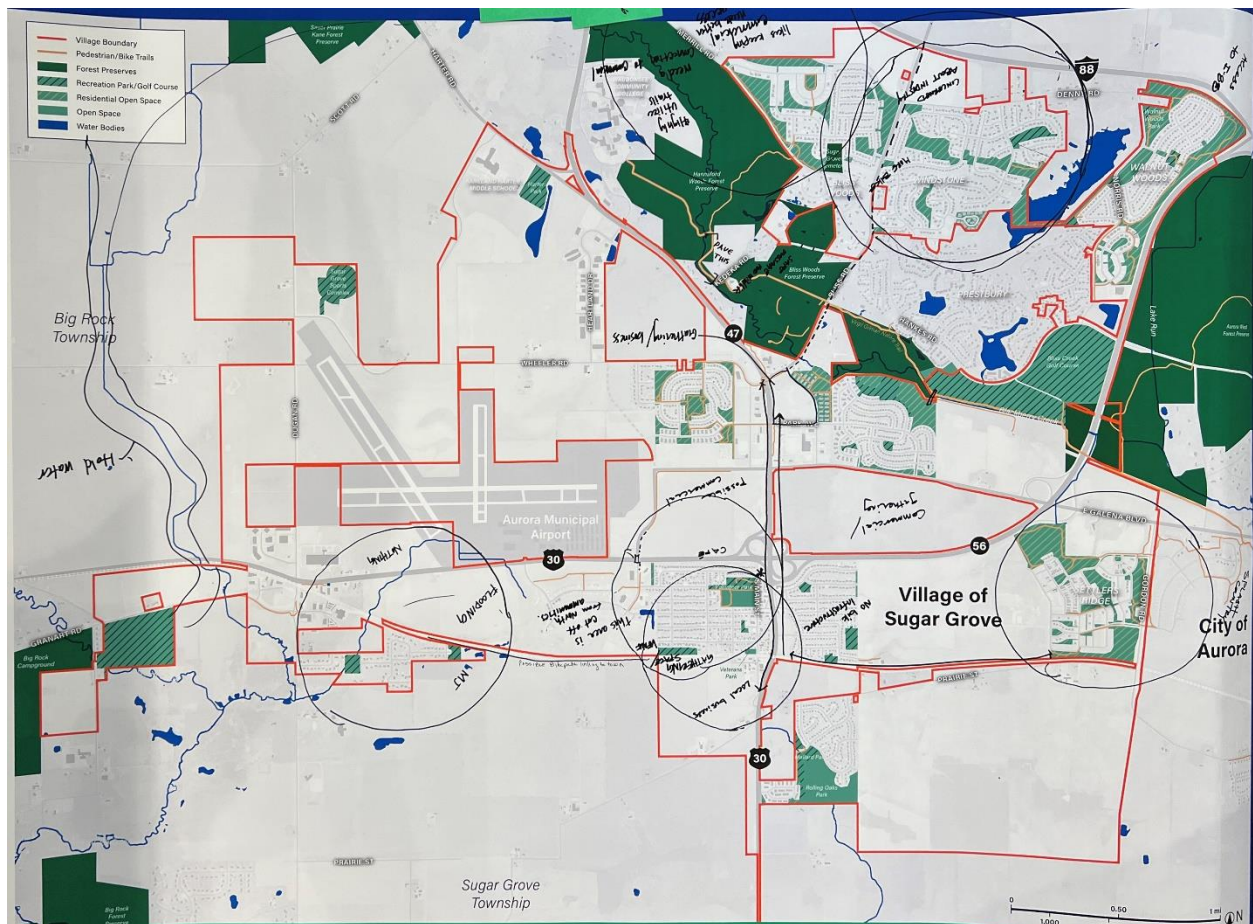
\$7.40

\$7.05

\$1.85

\$1.60

To help community members understand access to parks and open space in Sugar Grove, the planning team invited participants to identify their own homes on a map of the Village featuring the Park District's and County's park resources. Using a pen attached to a string and pin, participants were invited to draw a 10-minute walk circle around their house to identify which park spaces they have walkable access to. The results from this exercise are displayed in the map below.



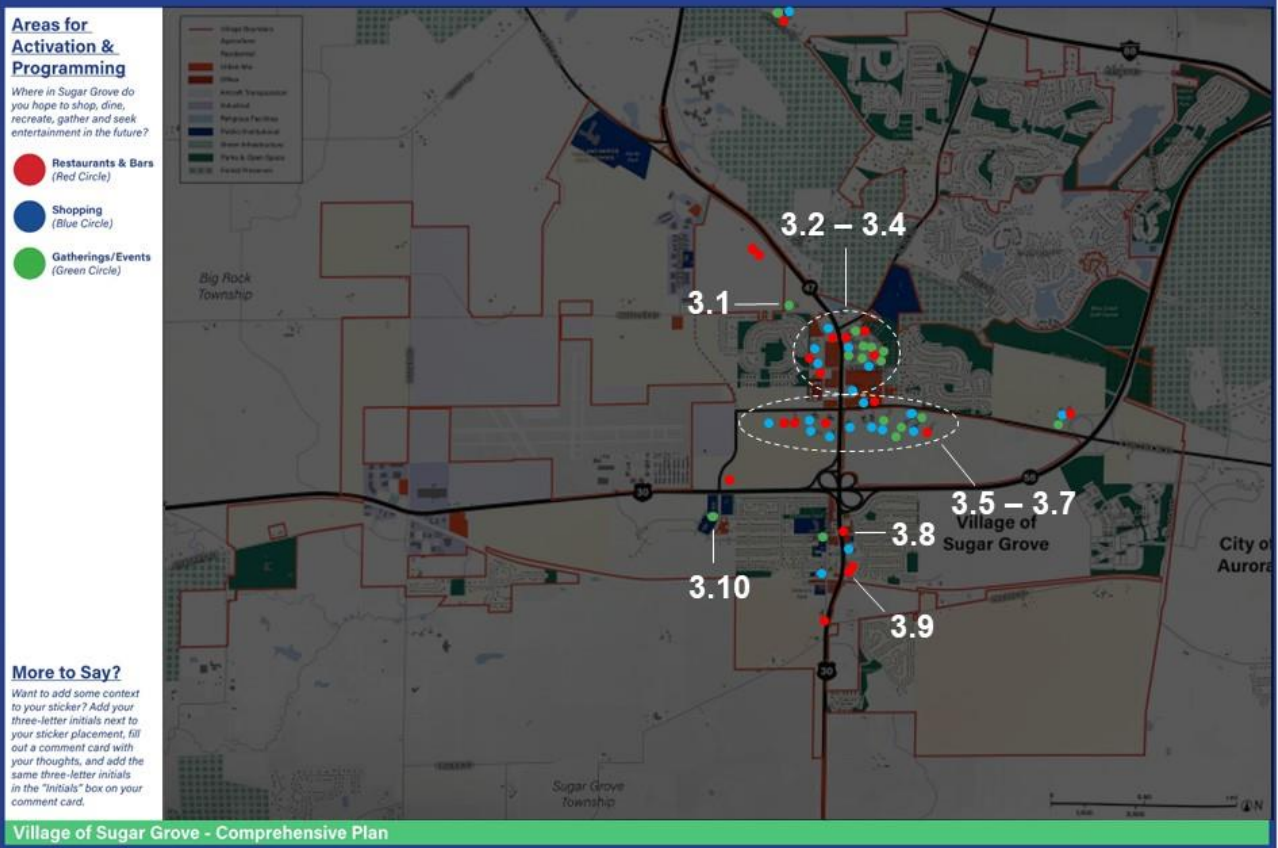
From our engagement with the community at this station, the planning team learned the following:

- The majority of the transportation challenges experienced by participants are along Route 47 and the southbound segment of Route 30.
- Community participants see opportunities to enhance pedestrian connectivity along Route 47 and into the neighborhoods.
- Participants want to see better pedestrian and bicycle connectivity over Blackberry Creek.
- Participants want to see better pedestrian and bicycle connectivity from the neighborhoods to the commercial properties along Route 47 and Route 30.
- Participants want to see better bicycle access and connectivity along Route 30, west of Route 47.
- Participants want to see better, safer pedestrian connectivity across Route 47 and across Route 30/56.
- Participants want to see Route 47 south expanded.
- The community is interested in investing more of its transportation spending in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and connectivity.

Station 3: Gather & Prosper

At the Gather & Prosper station, community members engaged in conversation with the planning team on opportunities within the Village to encourage community gathering, commercial activation, and economic development. Community members were invited to contribute their ideas and preferences for places to gather, shop, dine, drink, and play in Sugar Grove in the future.

Activating Sugar Grove



Participants were invited to provide more information related to their chosen placement of dot stickers by adding their initials in pen next to a sticker and adding the same set of initials to a designated box on the comment card. The comments linked to stickers placed on the Activating Sugar Grove mapping activity are anonymized here and reported verbatim.

- 3.1. Corn Boil needs an area with parking and access to electric and water (MG) Residential development at Timbercrest (?) on Galena.
- 3.2. Gathering, food shopping depending on scope
- 3.3. Keep area bounded by Bliss Rd – Route 47 – Jewel Osco as green space; Shopping – infill, where possible, the Jewel Osco lot. Zoning rules have made it larger than needed and it is where our community already shops.
- 3.4. Green – town center; Blue - on Division St.: office/retail w/ residential above.
- 3.5. I think that there should be some kind of thrift store/clothing store here.
- 3.6. There should be some sort of shopping strip for young people to hangout at.
- 3.7. Sit down restaurants - no more fast food if they're chains; then more upscale like a Cooper's Hawk style or a Turf Room or Hardware type of place; Shopping – I spend most of my time at Geneva Commons + up and down Randall. No Walmart please!; South of the 30/56 overpass is totally overlooked; it has the only "old" Main St area that could be...
- 3.8. Area by Fireside and strip stores on Cross need to be redone. Main Street down south (Prairie Street) needs attention.
- 3.9. Would like a brewery, restaurant or some sort of cool place to visit without having to go to another town.

- 3.10. The library is a district serving 16,145 residents beyond just Sugar Grove (Montgomery + Aurora); Building built in 2009 but it is still running on the same operating budget as the old library, which was 25% of the size. The library building is getting older. There have been 12 failed referendums to increase the operating tax rate. Plan to go to ballot in April 2023. To ensure the library can remain a destination and gathering space, other units of government will need to support the library.

From our engagement with the community at this station, the planning team learned the following:

- There is consensus that there is significant opportunity for activation and increased retail, commercial (restaurants, bars, shopping) growth along Route 47 and along the segments of East Galena Boulevard flanking Route 47.
- Community members want to see a reactivation of Main Street as a destination.
- There is interest among participants in creating/expanding community open space southwest of Bliss Road, near its intersection with Capitol Drive.
- Participants collectively want to see more upscale restaurants in the Village.
- Participants see an opportunity for commercial/retail development at the intersection of Route 47 and I-88, north of the Village.

Plenary Report-out/Q&A

Following the open house component of the workshop where community members were invited to engage with the planning team and comprehensive planning activities, all workshop attendees reconvened in a plenary session to report out their experiences with the activities and key takeaways from the evening. Using Mentimeter live-polling software, the planning team invited community members to respond to questions on their smartphones and the full workshop could see the anonymized results appear on the presentation screen in real time. The following responses were collected to the questions asked in the plenary session and are anonymized here and reported verbatim.

What is a takeaway from today?

- This is a thoughtful process. Seems like there are lots of different ways to grow so hopefully you find some consensus.
- There wasn't anything for development around Route 47 and I-88. It should have been on your maps even though its technically not in the village by it was...
- That you really want residents' input.
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of Sugar Grove. Needs vs. wants.
- Interested and engaged residents!
- Strong consideration where we want preserved space. Differing views on housing and retail.
- Interesting process. Thanks.
- Not as many people as I hoped showed up for this meeting.
- Interesting concept to gather input.
- I like being involved in this decision making. And being heard. No focus on Route 47 expansion to four lanes. A campaign promise.
- What are the discussions with the park district.
- Glad to have the opportunity to express myself.
- It is hard to give specifics on each dot. Maps should have extended to beyond the boundaries.
- The look and feel of the city.
- Its nice to see the village take interest in what the community wants/needs,
- I feel like this was good! I do feel like this is a good concept to expand the village to people of all ages, younger or older.

What are you most eager to see the Comprehensive Plan provide guidance on?

- Route 47 expansion
- Housing diversification, and our population ages. Transportation as mobility AND health factor.
- Downtown, retail, restaurants, and walking mobility
- Restaurants and retail.
- Retail, restaurants, keep the beauty of our natural preserves.
- Fix and improve what we already have. Mixed housing. Bike paths.
- Where can we have short-term wins for commercial growth.
- Protecting sensitive natural lands.
- Connect open spaces.
- Smart growth ideas. Higher density residential and retail office space together. Connecting neighborhoods with trails.
- Roadway connection, bike path connection, development at I-88 and Rt. 47. Retail development in the Route 47 corridor.
- Infill on residential.
- The look and feel of Sugar Grove!
- Mobility to connect our communities to the commercial center of Sugar Grove.
- I am concerned about water.
- Small growth.
- Apartment housing expansion.
- More family friendly venues without having to leave Sugar Grove and a walkable way to get there.

What do we need to talk more about as this planning process progresses?

- Infrastructure
- Commercial and industrial development to diversify tax base
- Housing – it doesn't need to be a scary "density" discussion.
- Balance
- Route 47 expansion!
- Developing a green community
- Community engagement
- Smart growth
- Future population
- Housing, newcomers moving for/not for college
- Route 47 and I-88 interchange, infrastructure improvement, stress of growth on existing services.
- Sustainability of growth that won't make living and moving to Sugar Grove prohibitive.
- Create more of a community feel.
- How to attract residential development. Development costs are too high to move dirt for new housing.
- Leaders that don't play favorites.
- How to pay for this growth when it comes to infrastructure and the ongoing costs. We need smart growth that protects our resources and keeps our quality of life.
- Creating strong sense community.
- Youth and education.

What are you most excited about for Sugar Grove's future?



Survey: Community members in attendance were informed that the online Community Survey #1 was available on the project website for a week and a half longer, following the community workshop, and were invited to participate to the survey to contribute more detailed thoughts.

Comment Cards:

The following comments were provided to the planning team by community members and were either not linked directly to contributions to the mapping activities or such links could not be definitively identified.

- Adding additional residential when community services cannot handle the load will not be what's best for Sugar Grove. Fix those first.
- Report out – Verbal
 - Lot of connective transportation but lacking neighborhood connections
 - Water issue is a big concern
 - Balance – look beyond white/wealthy and more about equity – serving all people and incomes.
 - Needs of the youth
 - Are we engaging the youth? Are we engaging with schools?
 - We need to work to grow youthful generation
- As a member of the Library Board I am wondering if there are conversations the library needs to be included in. We are always available if you need any information from us.

Event Images:





Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan

Community Survey #1 – Findings Summary

Survey Window:

The Village of Sugar Grove Community Survey #1 (CS1) was conducted online from Wednesday, February 16, 2022 through Thursday, March 24, 2022.

Survey Location:

CS1 was hosted online via the Qualtrics XM survey platform. The survey was accessible via a link on the Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan website on the CMAP EngageHQ platform. The link to this page and announcements about the survey were posted on the Village website, included in utility bills mailed to Village residents, and promoted at the first community workshop on March 14, 2022. The survey was accessible to respondents in both English and Spanish and via computer and smart device.

Survey Description:

The Village of Sugar Grove CS1 was administered in Phase 2 (Visioning) of the planning process's community engagement timeline. The purposes of the survey included:

- Understand the community's perceptions of the village in the past and present;
- Understand the community's experience of the Village and its services today;
- Collect community priorities related to growth and future investments in Sugar Grove; and
- Learn about the community's aspirations for the future of the Village;
- Identify the best means of communicating with the community.

The survey primarily included multiple choice questions, short text response questions, and scale-based questions asking survey respondents to rank or evaluate options.

Response quality, as measured by the survey host site's automated analysis is reported to be 100%. No errors were found in the response data set that could impact survey outcomes.

Survey Summary:

CS1 was open for contributions for five weeks. In that time, 927 responses were recorded. The following summary reflects the responses of all respondents. Not every survey participant answered every question and, as a result, summaries of each set of results may report on fewer results than the total number of survey respondents.

Several questions asked respondents about basic demographic questions and questions about their experience as a member of the Sugar Grove community.

Respondent Age

Basic demographic data was collected revealing that no respondents were under the age of 18, 1.1% were between the ages of 18-25, 25% were between the ages of 26-39, 57% were between the ages of 40-65, 15% were between the ages of 65-79, and 1% were over the age of 80.

Respondent Tenure

Data was collected on respondents' tenure in the community—reflected in Figure 1. The majority of respondents (56%) have lived in the community for more than 4 but less than 20 years. 24% have lived there for less than 4 years. 18% have lived in the community for more than 20 years and 3% did not live in the Village of Sugar Grove.

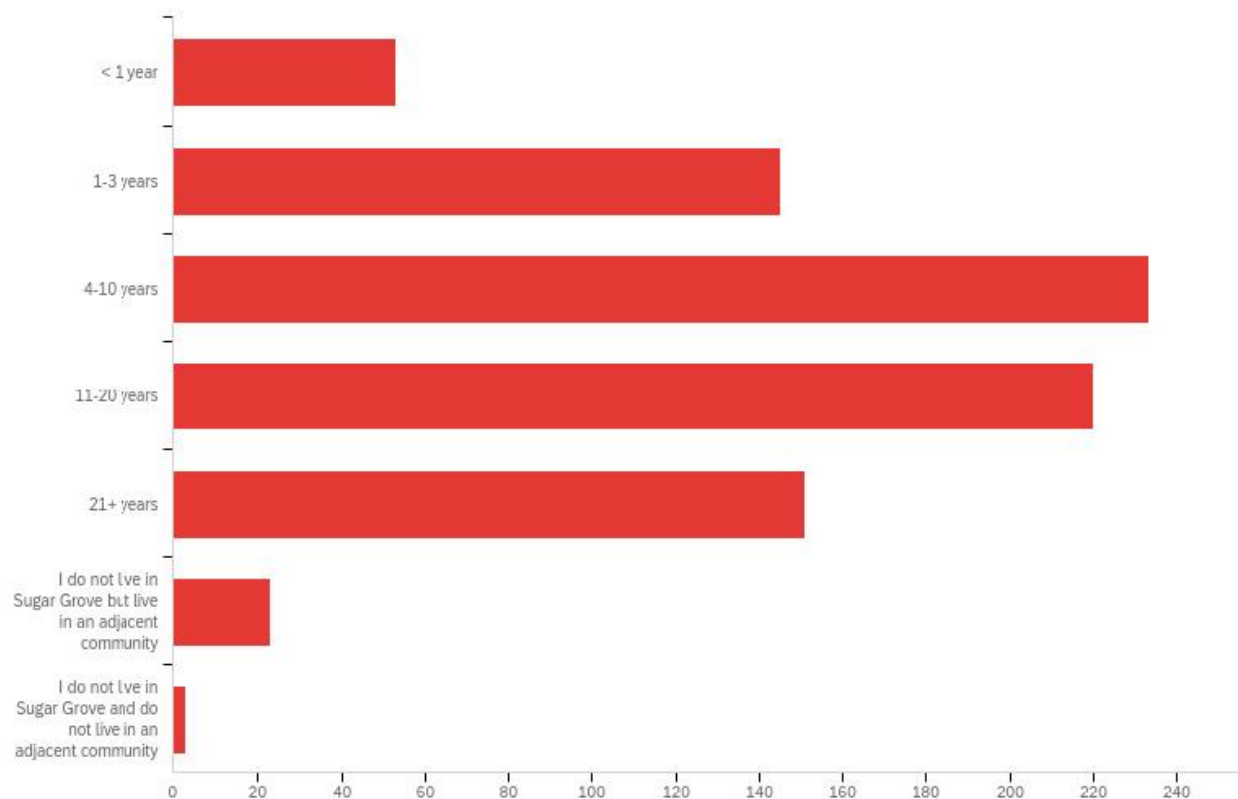


Figure 1: Responses to the question “How long have you lived in Sugar Grove?”

Modes of Travel

When respondents were asked if a personal vehicle was their primary means of getting around, more than 99.5% said yes, while less than a quarter of a percent of respondents each said “no” or “equal with other form(s).” When respondents were asked how many members of their household are non-drivers, the majority (56%) said none, while 35% of respondents said one to two members of their household were non-drivers, and 9% said there were three or more non-drivers in their household.

Perceptions of Safety

Respondents were asked about how safe they feel when walking, cycling, biking, and driving in Sugar Grove (see Figure 2). Overall, community members feel safe while out in Sugar Grove. Across all three modes of travel, more than three-fourths of survey respondents selected safe or very safe. Respondents felt safest driving, with 91% of all who answered this question choosing safe or very safe as compared to 9% choosing somewhat unsafe or very unsafe. When asked the same question for walking and driving, participants selected safe and very safe at rates of 88% and 78%, respectively and chose somewhat unsafe and very unsafe at rates of 12% and 22%, respectively.

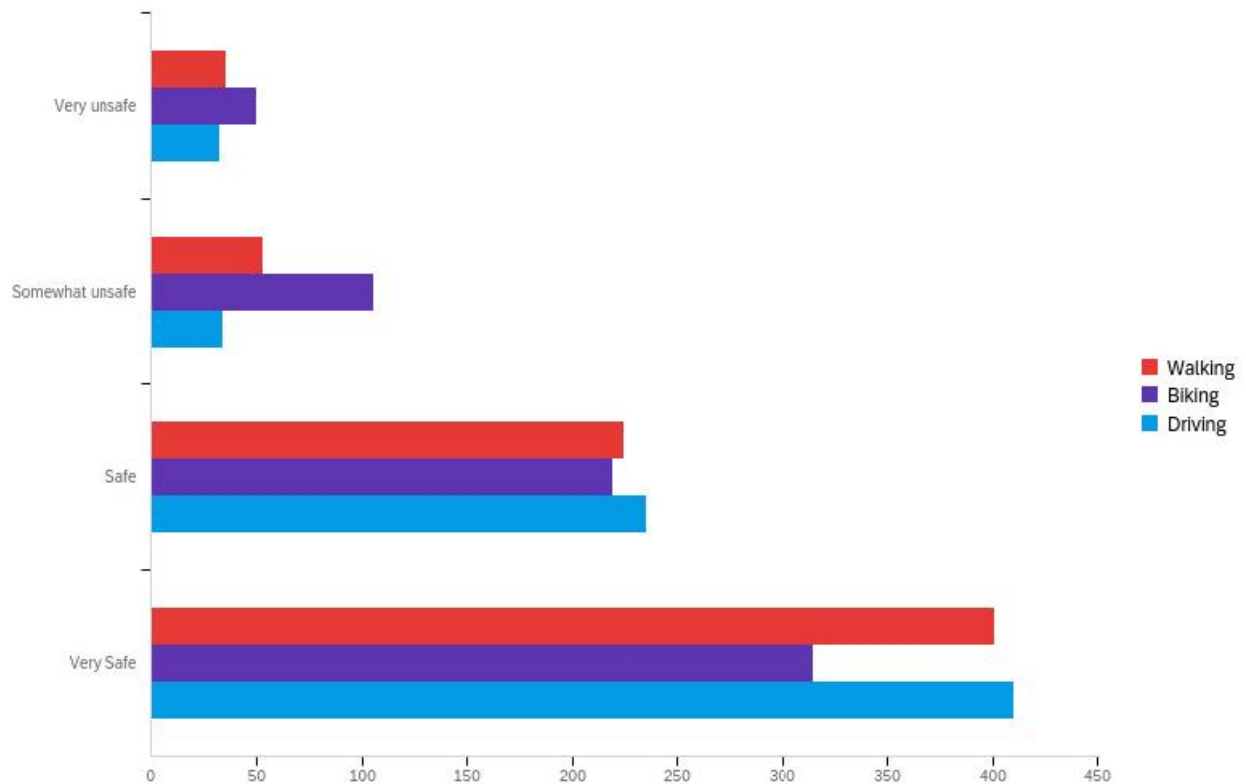


Figure 2: Responses to the question "Do you feel safe (walking/biking/driving) around Sugar Grove? - How safe do you feel?"

Local News Access

Survey respondents were asked about their primary source of news that is local to Sugar Grove (**Figure 3**). A plurality (42%) of respondents said Facebook or other social media was their primary source of local news. After social media, the most popular responses were the Village newsletter (18%), the Village website (10%), word of mouth (9%), local newspapers (6%), local television news (5%), local online newsletters (5%), other (3%), and Village public meetings (1%).

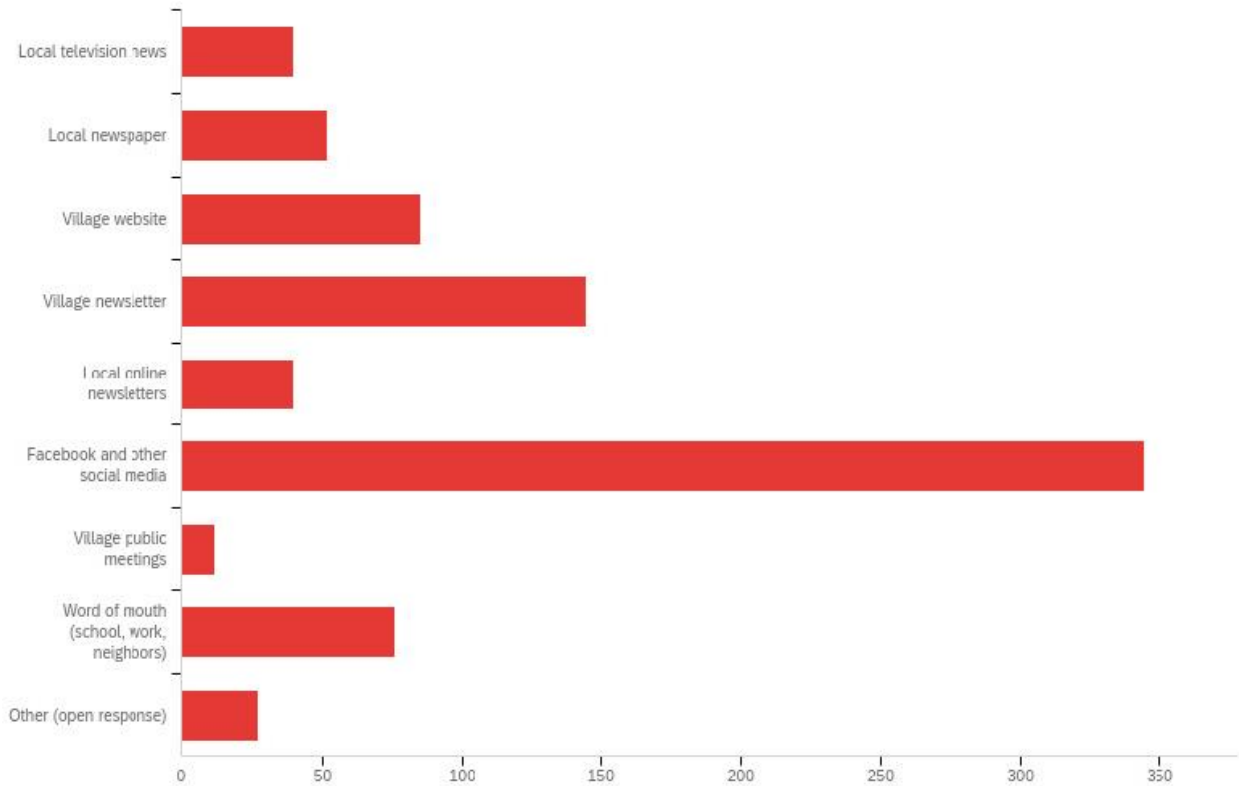


Figure 3: Responses to the question “What is your primary source of news that is local to Sugar Grove?”

Non-Residential Life in Sugar Grove

Respondents were asked to identify up to three locations/activities in Sugar Grove where they spend time outside their own home. The most popular responses were walking around the neighborhood (27%) and at a local store or shopping (26%). The next most popular responses were home of neighbor/friend/family (13%), local park/recreation (11%), work (10%), cycling around the neighborhood (7%), and school (1%).

The next set of questions asked respondents about their perceptions of Sugar Grove.

The Draw of Sugar Grove

Respondents were asked to describe what first attracted them to live in Sugar Grove and what they like most about living in Sugar Grove. These questions were posed as open response questions and respondents submitted short text answers. Responses have been organized in the word clouds in **Figures 4-6**. Overall, the word clouds reveal much of the same language submitted in response to both questions. Respondents wrote “proximity”, “community”, “small town feel”, “quiet”, “close”, “access”, “neighborhood”, “friendly”, “location”, “peaceful”, “safety”, and other similar words to describe their perceptions of the Village.

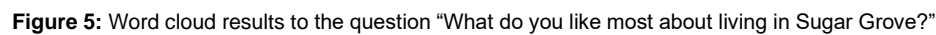
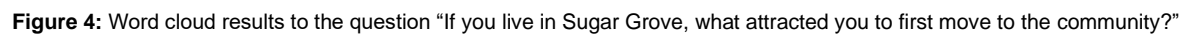




Figure 6: Word cloud results to the question “In your experience, what is unique about Sugar Grove as compared to the rest of the region?”

The next set of questions asked respondents about their experience of the Village and the services it provides.

Missing and Desired Experiences and Features

To understand the community’s desires for the future of Sugar Grove, survey respondents were asked to identify experiences that they felt were missing from the community today. The results of this question are depicted in **Figure 7**. The most popular response was “dining out”, which was selected by 24% of those who answered the question. The next most popular options were local shopping (boutiques, downtown retail) (17%), entertainment (11%), bars and nightlife (10%), recreation (natural areas, fields/courts) (9%), regional shopping (big box stores, shopping center) (7%), civic activities (farmers’ markets, festivals, parades) (7%), and civic events activities (clubs, groups, sports performances) (7%). Less popular options included other, (4%), employment (office, industrial) (3%), denser housing options (townhouses, multifamily) (1%), community education (libraries, resource centers) (<1%), and higher education (community colleges, extension programs) (<1%).

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- Younger respondents (39 years of age and younger) selected “bars and nightlife” at higher rates than older respondents (older than 39).
- “Entertainment” was a more popular selection among young adults and middle-aged respondents than younger and older respondents.
- “Regional shopping” was a more popular selection among younger and older respondents than it was among middle-aged respondents (40-65 years of age).
- “Civic events” was far more popular among the youngest respondents (18-25 years of age) than any other age group.
- “Recreation (natural areas, fields/courts)” declined in popularity among respondents with age by group.
- “Dining out” was least popular among respondents who have lived in Sugar Grove the longest (21+ years).

- “Bars and nightlife” was least popular among respondents who have lived in Sugar Grove the longest (more than 11 years).
- “Local shopping (boutiques, downtown retail)” roughly declined in popularity the longer that residents lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Employment (office, industrial)” and “Denser housing options (townhomes, multifamily)” roughly increased in popularity the longer that residents lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Civic events (farmers’ markets, festivals, parades)” roughly declined in popularity the longer that residents lived in Sugar Grove.

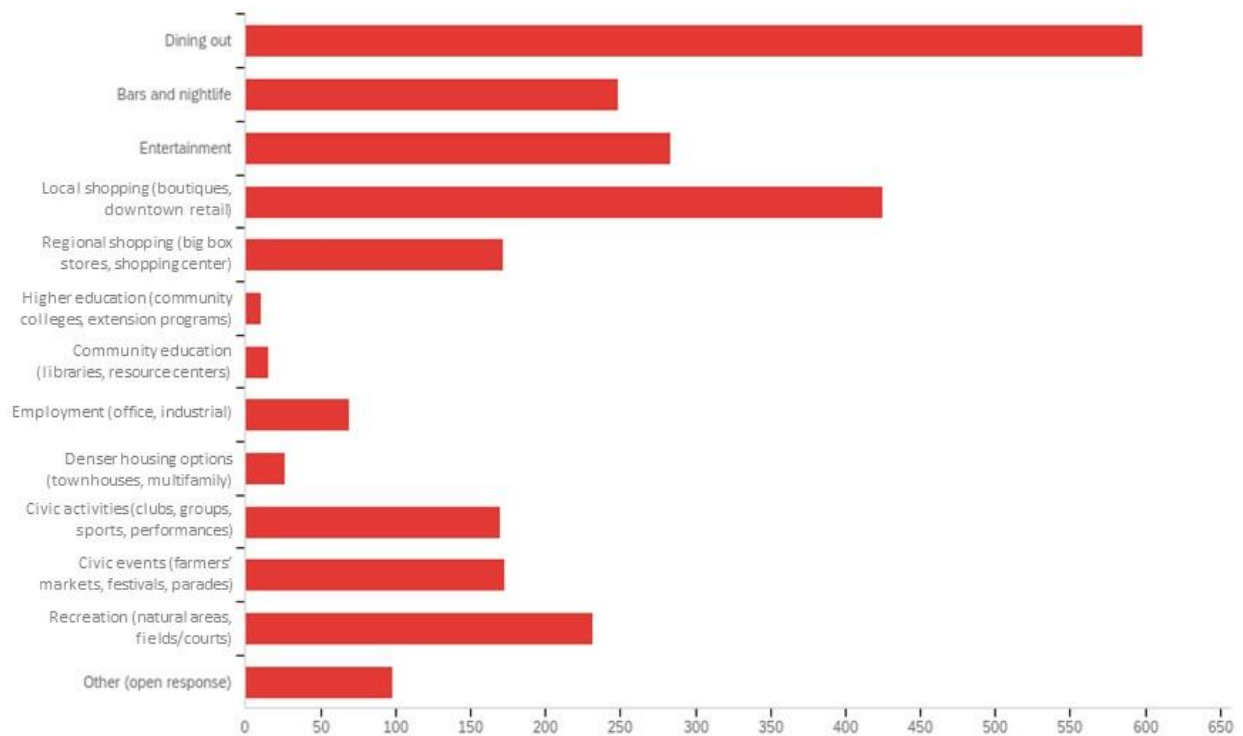


Figure 7: Responses to the question “In your opinion, what kind of experiences are missing from or desired for Sugar Grove today?”

Sugar Grove’s Problems

Respondents were asked to choose the three issues from a list of seventeen that they saw as the biggest problems facing Sugar Grove today (**Figure 8**). While no one issue or set of issues were selected overwhelmingly by survey-takers, a handful of issues were identified as bigger problems than others, including lack of resources and programs (14% of those who answered this question), growth (10%), availability of local services and resources (10%), business environment (8%), and resident attraction and retention (8%). Other options were selected by 5% or less of respondents.

10% of respondents selected “other” as one of their three choices. Written answers submitted alongside this choice can be found in Appendix 1 of this document (question 12).

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- “Local infrastructure maintenance” generally increased in popularity with age among respondents.
- “Lack of housing options (variety)” and “lack of housing affordability (cost)” roughly increased in popularity among respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

- “Lack of local diversity (racial, generational, etc).” decreased in popularity among respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Growth” increased in popularity among respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

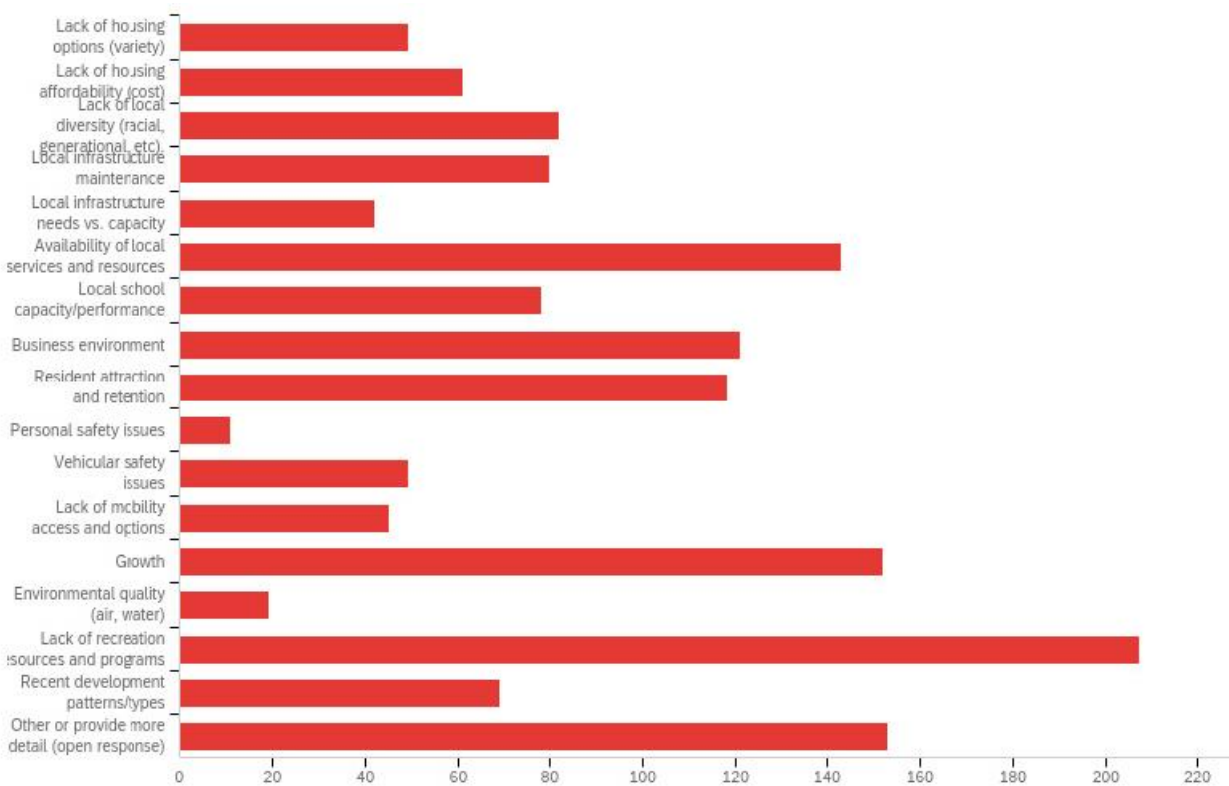


Figure 8: Responses to the question “In your opinion, what are the biggest problems facing Sugar Grove today?”

Threats to Sugar Grove

When asked to identify the top three threats to Sugar Grove’s quality of life in the next 10-20 years (**Figure 9**), the most popular responses were too much growth (13% of question respondents) and too little growth (14%). Respondents were approximately equally divided in choosing one of these two options. Other popular options included inability to meet the needs of emerging generations (12%), inability to get around without driving (10%), housing affordability (9%), growth/change outside village boundaries (9%), aging population (7%), and other (6%). None of the other options were selected by more than 4% of question respondents.

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- “Too much growth” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Too little growth” roughly decreased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Housing affordability” was more of a concern for the youngest and oldest respondents than it was for middle-aged respondents.
- “Inability to meet the needs of emerging generations” was a more prominent concern for younger respondents than older respondents and roughly declined in popularity the longer respondents lived in Sugar Grove.

- “Growth/change outside Village boundaries” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Inability to age in place within the community” increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Inability to get around without driving” and “inability to access regional transit” was most popular among the youngest and oldest respondents.
- “Housing affordability” increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Personal safety issues” and “vehicular safety issues” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Inability to get around without driving” increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

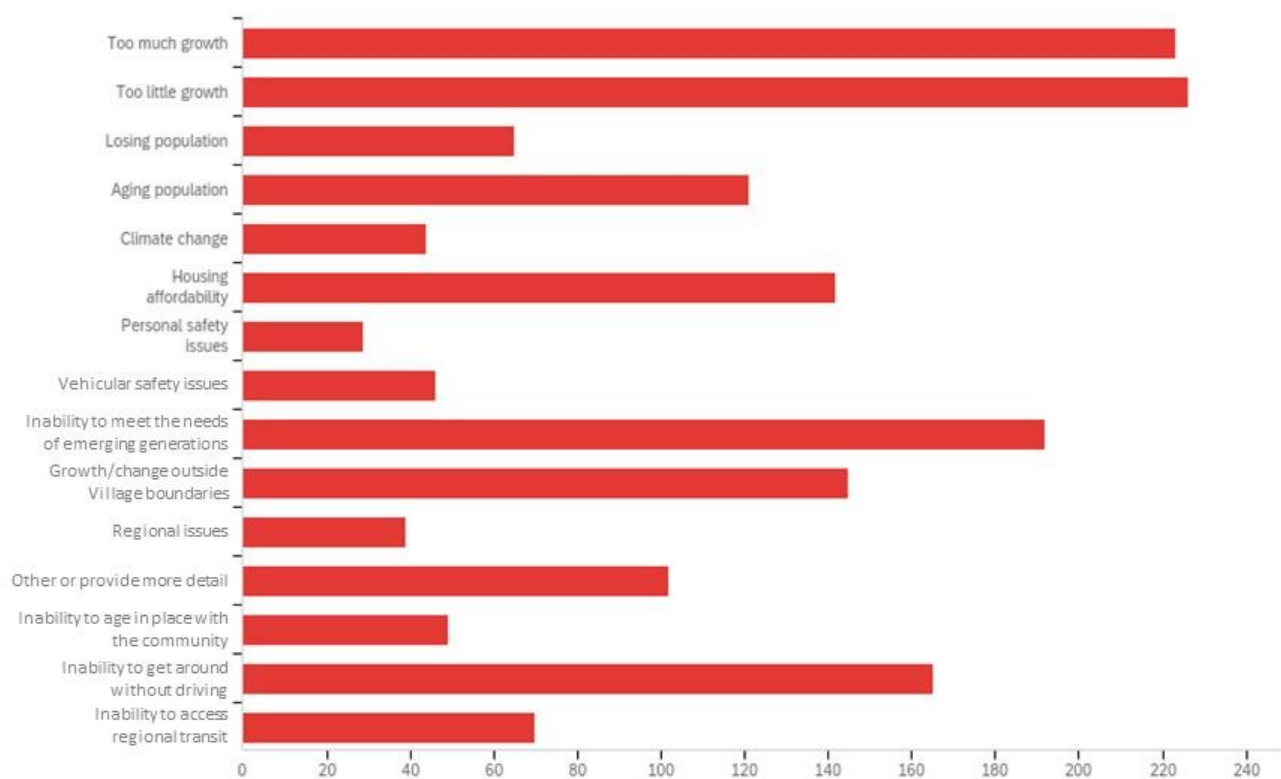


Figure 9: Responses to the question “What are the biggest threats to Sugar Grove’s quality of life in the next 10-20 years?”

Creating Community in Sugar Grove

When asked to select up to three options in response to the question “What important components of creating community does Sugar Grove lack today?”, the most popular selections were restaurants and bars (22% of respondents who answered this question selected this option), local retail (16%), cafes (14%), outdoor public gathering spaces (parks, plazas, amphitheaters) (12%), indoor recreation spaces (recreation center, pool) (10%), and entertainment venues (7%). All other options were selected by 5% or less of the respondents. See **Figure 10** for all recorded responses to this question.

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- “Restaurants and bars” were most popular among young adult (26-39 years of age) and middle-aged (40-65 years of age) respondents.
- “Housing diversity” roughly increased in popularity with respondent age.
- “Entertainment venues” was most popular among young adults (25-39 years of age) and became less popular with age.
- “Local retail” was very popular among the least tenured (residential) cohort (<1 year), least popular among those living in the community for 1-3 years, and increased from there with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Community diversity” decreased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

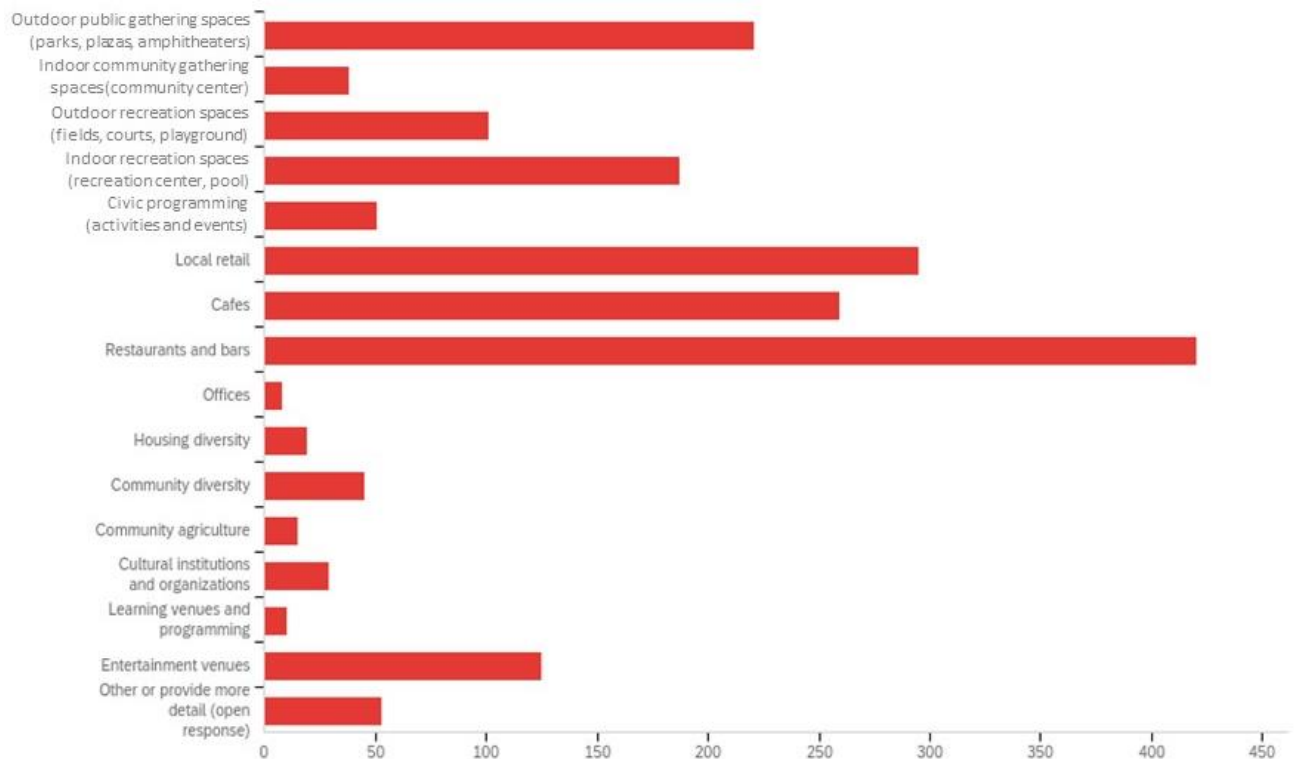


Figure 10: Responses to the question “What important components to creating community does Sugar Grove lack today?”

The next set of questions asked survey-takers about their objectives, priorities, and aspirations for the future of Sugar Grove.

Priorities for the Future

Participants were presented with fourteen proposed priorities derived from a strategic approach to addressing the issues identified in the planning team’s existing conditions research, interviews, and local market/economic analyses. Participants were asked to select their three top priorities for this comprehensive planning process among this list. Participants had the option to select “other” and provide a text response to expand on their selection. Selections ranged greatly in popularity, from the least popular—making Sugar Grove accessible to more people (selected by 1% of question respondents)—to the most popular—strengthening/enhancing the local business climate (18%). Other popular options included making/keeping Sugar Grove attractive to people of all ages (16%), protecting the natural environment (13%), enhancing community activities and programming (9%), growing Sugar Grove (9%), enhancing the public realm and community spaces (6%), better non-driving mobility options (6%), and identifying priority areas for development (6%), providing more flexibility to allow different types of

development to take shape (5%). Less popular selections included expanding housing variety and choice (3%), increasing affordability of housing stock (2%), identifying the most important upcoming public investments (2%), better connecting Sugar Grove to the larger region (1%), and making Sugar Grove accessible to more people (1%).

3% of participants selected “other” as a top priority. Some provided a text response to expound on their selection. Those text responses can be found in Appendix 1 under question 18.

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- “Making/keeping Sugar Grove attractive to people of all ages” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Growing Sugar Grove” sharply declined in popularity with respondent age.
- “Providing more flexibility to allow different types of development to take shape” roughly increased in popularity with respondent age.
- “Better non-driving mobility options” was roughly three times as popular among the oldest respondents (80+ years of age) as it was among any other age group.
- “Providing more flexibility to allow different types of development to take shape” was most popular among respondents with the most and least residential tenure.

Demand for Multi-Mobility

Building on the understanding of Sugar Grove’s mobility network developed as part of the existing conditions analysis, the planning team sought to understand what demand exists for alternative means of mobility (i.e. non-automotive means). Survey-takers were asked to rate four alternative means of mobility on a scale denoting how frequently they would use them if their availability was enhanced (see **Figure 11**). Responses from those who answered this question revealed that the community has significant interest in new/enhanced pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure (sidewalks, trails, bicycle lanes, cycle tracks), with 72% (pedestrian) and 66% (bicycle) selecting would be my primary means of mobility, somewhat frequently, or very frequently. Regional transit connectivity (enhanced access to Metra and CTA) was moderately popular with 28% of respondents selecting would be my primary means of mobility, somewhat frequently, or very frequently and 75% responding they would use it a little or not at all. The least popular option was local community shuttle (internal to Sugar Grove and nearby destinations). 17% of respondents selected would be my primary means of mobility, somewhat frequently, or very frequently for this means and 83% stated they would use it a little or not at all.

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

- When asked how much they would use “enhanced bicycle infrastructure (bicycle lanes, trails and cycle tracks)” if it was available, the popularity of the “very frequently” response declined with respondent age.
- When asked how much they would use “regional transit connectivity (enhanced access to Metra and CTA)” if it was available, the popularity of the “very frequently” response increased with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- When asked how much they would use “local community shuttle (internal to Sugar Grove and nearby destinations)” if it was available, the popularity of the “very frequently” response increased with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

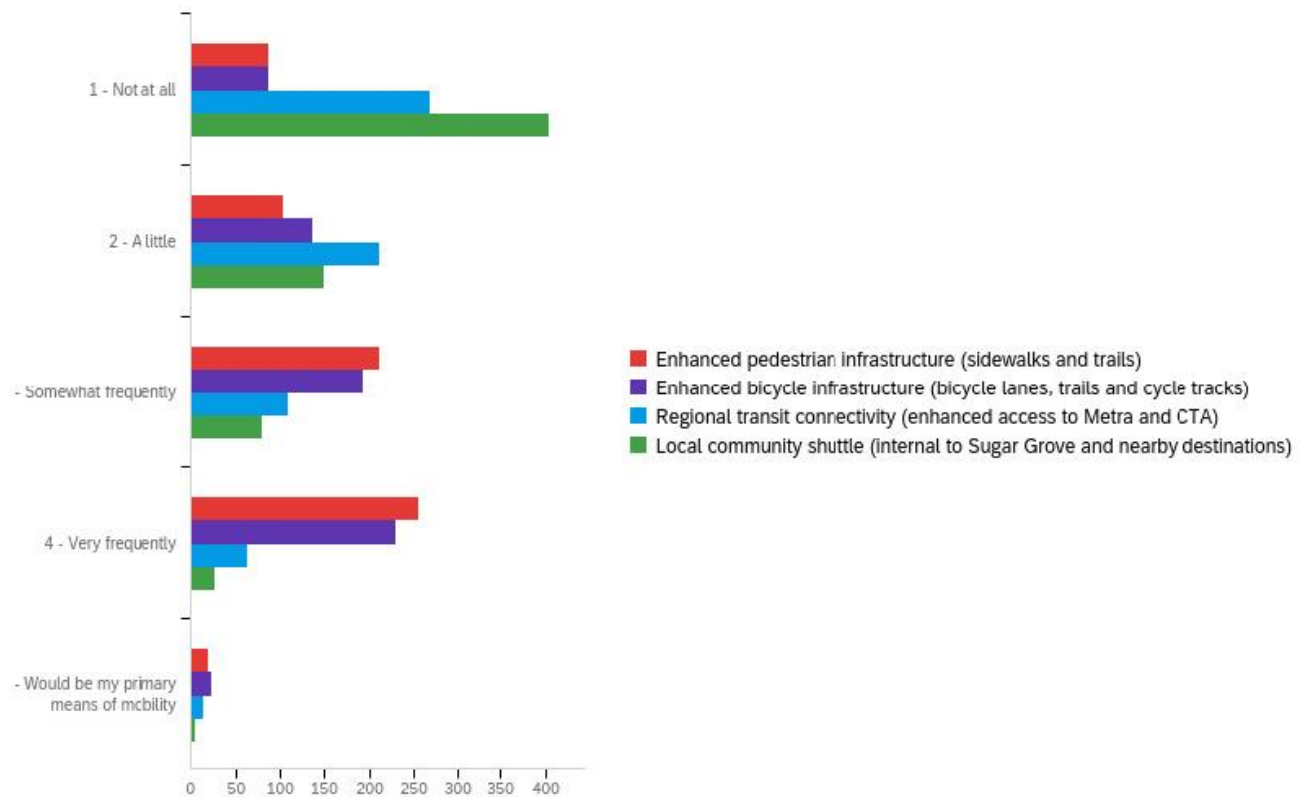


Figure 11: Responses to the question “If other means of mobility were available for getting around Sugar Grove and to other places in the region, how much would you use them?”

New Development

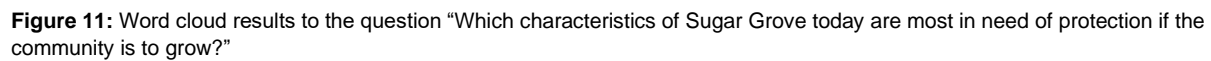
Survey-takers were asked for their views on what kinds of development should take shape in Sugar Grove over the next 10-20 years. Among the eight options presented, respondents could choose up to three. The most popular choices were retail development (31% of respondents chose this), entertainment development (26%), and civic development (community center, school, library, recreation center) (17%). Less popular options were higher density single family options (traditional neighborhood development) (8%), mixed-use development (8%), office development (6%), mid-density housing options (townhouses) (3%), and higher density housing options (small-scale multifamily buildings) (2%).

Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 2 for detail):

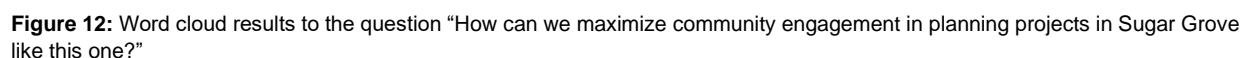
- “Civic development (community center, school, library, recreation center)” and “entertainment development” roughly declined in popularity with age.
- “Mid-density housing options (townhouses)” and “office development” roughly increased in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.
- “Entertainment development” roughly declined in popularity with respondents the longer they lived in Sugar Grove.

Protecting Sugar Grove’s Characteristics

Respondents were asked about which characteristics of Sugar Grove are in most need of protection if the community is to grow. Their responses have been amalgamated and the top words used are reflected in the word cloud in **Figure 11**.



Survey respondents were asked to provide input on how the planning team could maximize community engagement in community planning projects. Their responses have been amalgamated and the top words used are reflected in the word cloud in **Figure 12**.



Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan

Community Workshop #2 – Event Summary

Event Date & Time:

Wednesday, July 13, 2022 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Event Location:

Sugar Grove Public Library

Event Description:

The planning team hosted a 90-minute community workshop focused on updating the community on the progress made in the comprehensive planning process. Community participants were presented with the key takeaways from engagement work to date, including results from the first community workshop in March 2022 and the first online community survey. Attendees were invited to engage directly with the planning team through a variety of exercises at “stations” organized around the room, in an open house format. Participants engaged with mapping and prioritization activities, plan recommendation brainstorming, comment cards, and conversations with members of the Design Workshop team and CMAP. Following the open house portion of the events, attendees were invited to report out about the conversations they had and their takeaways at a plenary session, supported by smartphone-based live-polling software, Mentimeter.

Event Agenda:

6:00pm – 6:10pm: Arrival & trivia

6:10pm – 6:15pm: Welcome, introductions, agenda overview

6:15pm – 6:30pm: Plan process update & takeaways from engagement so far

6:30pm – 7:15pm: Open house (Approx. 15 mins each: brief presentation and facilitated exercises)

7:15pm – 7:25pm: Plenary report-out

7:25pm – 7:30pm: Next steps and Q&A

7:30pm – 8:00pm: DW team responds to last questions and packs up

Event Topics & Themes:

- **Introduction to Comprehensive Planning**
- **Building on and Connecting What’s Here**
 - Mapping activity:
 - “Improve connectivity throughout Sugar Grove and to nearby destinations” string mapping activity
 - “Enhance the feeling of safety for pedestrians and cyclists” dot mapping activity
 - Prioritization activity
 - “Create more opportunities for all people to thrive in Sugar Grove” dot prioritization activity
 - “Plan with smart growth principles” dot prioritization activity
- **Growth at a Neighborhood Scale**
 - Mapping activity

- “Protect and enhance the neighborhood scale of Sugar Grove” housing density chip mapping activity (locate preferred typologies from Workshop 1 geographically)
 - “Diversify Sugar Grove’s tax base and reduce the Village’s long-term costs” industrial and commercial typology mapping activity
- Prioritization activity
 - “Enhance the local business climate” dot prioritization activity
- **A Village Defined by Nature**
 - Mapping activity
 - “Preserve Sugar Grove’s natural setting/feel with sustainable open space practices that focus on recreation, access, and resiliency” open space and recreation mapping activity
 - Prioritization activity
 - “Protect Sugar Grove’s natural resources through strategic growth planning and a focus on long-term sustainability” dot prioritization activity

Event Summary:

Attendance: Approximately ten members of the Sugar Grove community attended the second workshop. Attendees ranged in age from young adults to senior citizens.



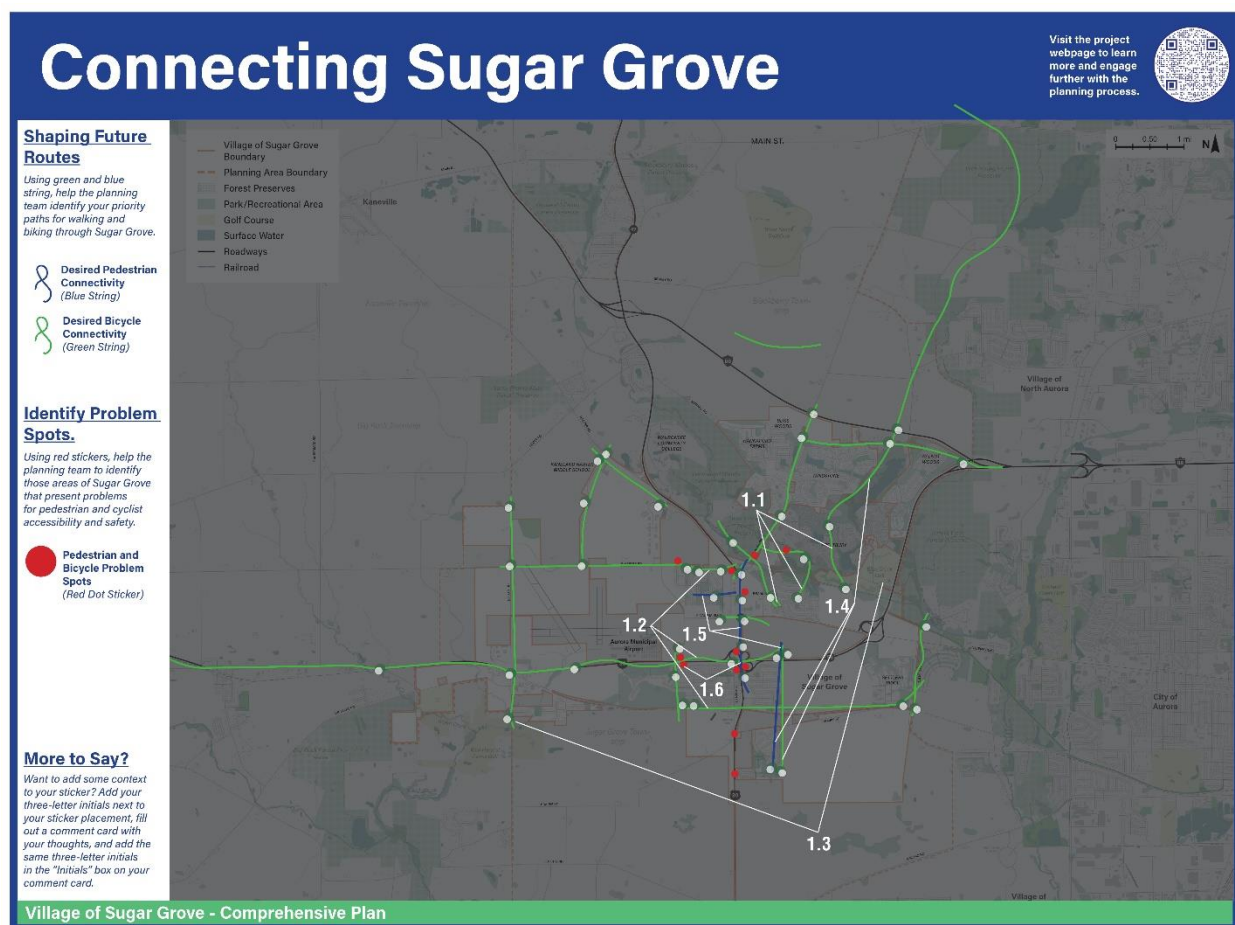
Activities & Takeaways: Each community participant was given the opportunity to spend up to fifteen minutes at each workshop “station” to learn about the topic, discuss key issues, opportunities, and concerns with the planning team, and engage with topical exercises focused on planning and prioritization. The summaries below are organized by the three workshop stations and the final plenary report-out session.

Station 1: Building on and Connecting What’s Here

At the Building on and Connecting What's Here station, community members were presented with nearby natural resources, such as forest preserves, parks, recreational areas, Golf course and water resources. Participants were asked to think how those resources can be connected to Village of Sugar Grove, to help the planning team to identify their priority paths for walking and biking through Sugar Grove, so that people have more chance to recreate locally and enjoy the Village's natural setting.

Community members engaged with a mapping exercise designed to identify their priority paths for walking and biking to improve connectivity throughout Sugar Grove and to nearby destinations. Each participant was given the opportunity to connect string paths with push-pins on the map. Blue string represented the desired pedestrian connectivity, and green string represented the desired bicycle connectivity.

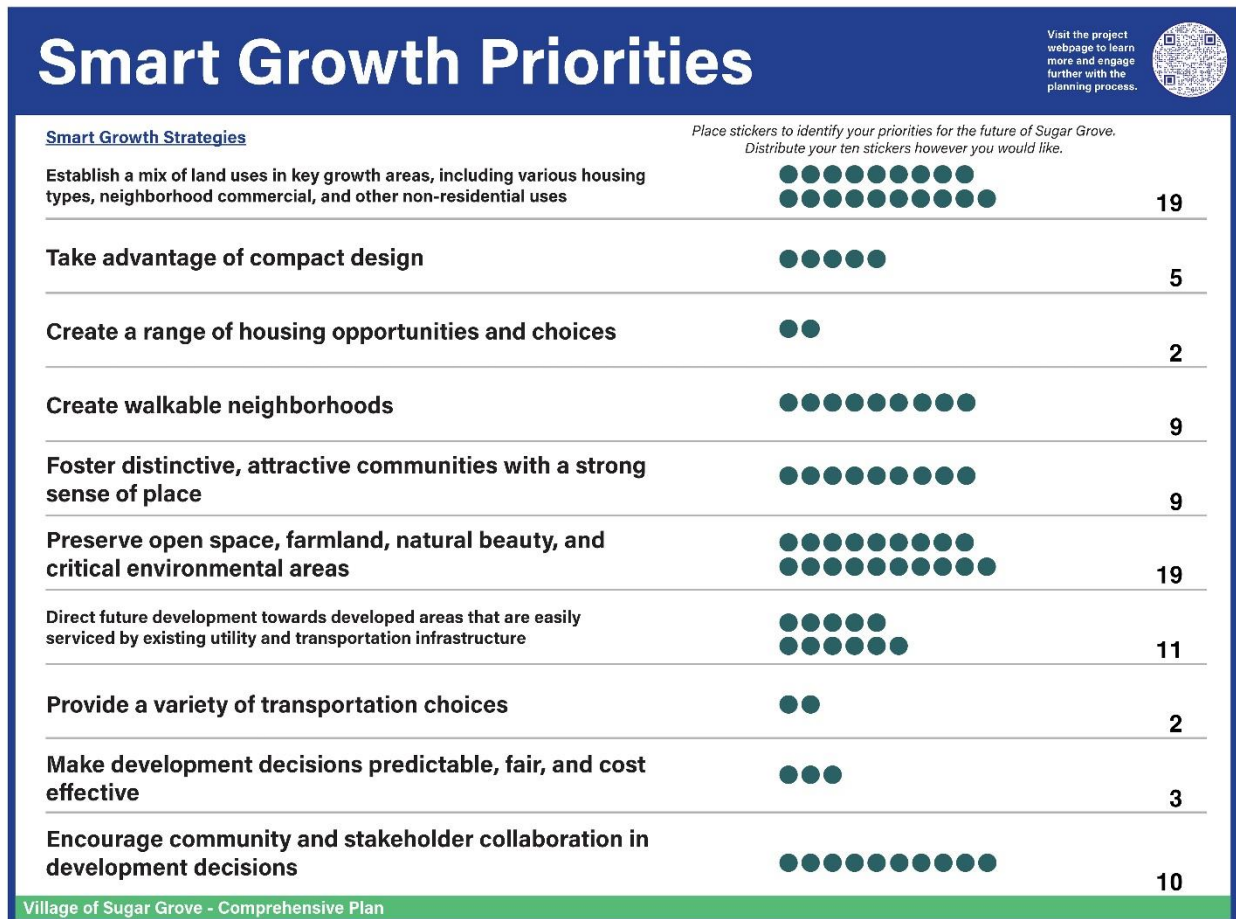
Participants were also invited to do a dot mapping exercise. Red dot stickers were used to help the planning team to identify those areas of Sugar Grove that present problems for pedestrian and cyclist accessibility and safety. The results of these two exercises are displayed in the image below.



- 1.1. Direct bicycle paths connecting the neighborhoods and nearby forest preserves are desired.
- 1.2. East-west bicycle paths through the village, leading people to the natural attractions in the suburbs are desired.
- 1.3. Bicycle paths connecting to the Golf Course on the edges of Village of Sugar Grove are desired.
- 1.4. Parks with water resources are popular, both pedestrian paths and bicycle paths from the neighborhoods to Blackberry Creek are desired.
- 1.5. Pedestrian paths connecting neighborhoods to the central area of the Village are desired.

- 1.6. The intersection of roads and highways present connectivity challenges, especially at the intersections of Route 30, Route 56, and Route 47.

Participants were also given the opportunity to participate in a prioritization activity to identify the smart growth principles that resonated most strongly with Sugar Grove residents. Participants were presented with a board of the ten established smart growth principles and were given ten dot stickers to distribute across the principles in accordance with their priorities. The results of this exercise are displayed in the image below.



Workshop attendees were invited to help prioritize a list of potential opportunities to help fulfill the theme of “creating opportunities for all people to thrive in Sugar Grove”. Participants were given ten dot stickers to distribute among the recommendations and strategies on the board depicted below. The results of this exercise are displayed in the image below.

Thriving in Sugar Grove

Visit the project webpage to learn more and engage further with the planning process.



Identifying Opportunities

Which of these recommendations and strategies do you most support to achieve the goal of creating more opportunities for all people to thrive in Sugar Grove? Distribute your ten stickers however you would like.

Allow greater flexibility of housing types (e.g. townhouse, duplex) within Sugar Grove's residential neighborhoods and higher density products (e.g. multifamily) in key growth areas.

Allow accessory dwelling units (in-law suites) in residential neighborhoods.



3

Partner with Waubensee Community College to offer small business workshops to encourage homegrown businesses in Sugar Grove.



9

Work proactively to attract remote workers as more people and families look outside major cities for places to work from home.



2

Apply for technical assistance grants from USDA, U.S. EPA, the Small Business Administration, and other sources to connect local resources and establish plans for critical services and facilities.

Establish equitable built environment principles for Sugar Grove. Include a focus on addressing the needs of a changing population, including housing accessibility for marginalized populations, enhanced mobility options for youths and seniors, and public realm design that is accessible to people with disabilities.



4

Establish standards for equity, implicit bias, and diversity training for all Village staff and employees, including police and service providers.



7

What's your idea for creating more opportunities for all people to thrive in Sugar Grove? Grab a sticky note and share your thinking. Post it here when you're done.

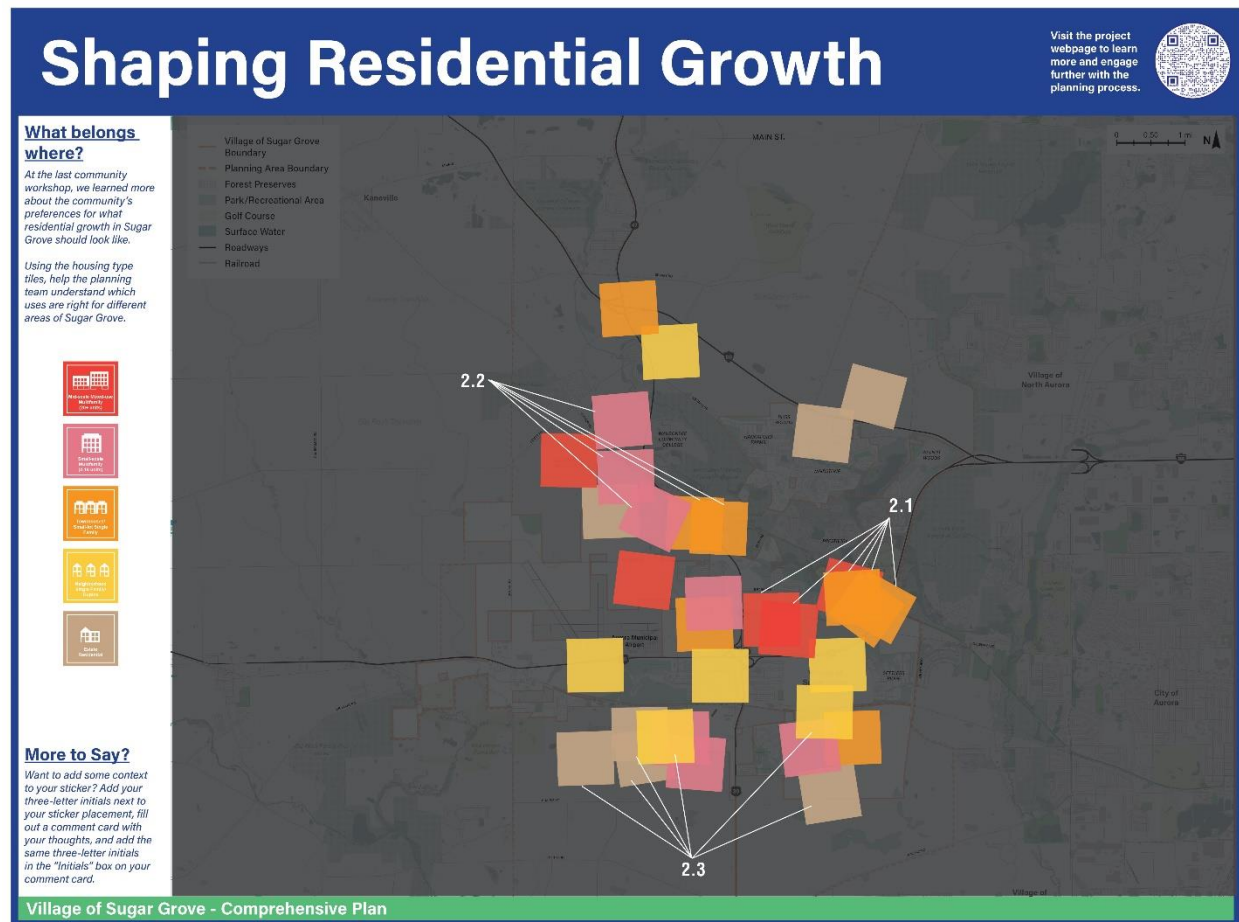
Village of Sugar Grove - Comprehensive Plan

From our engagement with the community at this station, the planning team learned the following:

- There is community interest in increasing pedestrian and bicycle connectivity along Route 47, particularly near its intersection with Route 30.
- There is high-risk area at the intersections of roads that requires high attention, particularly at the intersection of Route 30, Route 56 and Route 47
- There is community interest in increasing direct bicycle paths from neighborhoods to nearby destinations like the golf course, parks with water resources, and forest preserves.
- There is community interest in increasing connections between existing residential neighborhoods.
- There is substantial community interest in prioritizing preserving open spaces, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas.
- There is substantial interest in prioritizing establishing a mix of land uses in key growth areas, including various housing types, neighborhood-scale commercial uses, and other compatible non-residential uses.
- There is fair community interest in prioritizing adding community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions.
- There is fair community interest in prioritizing creating walkable neighborhoods and fostering distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place.
- There is much community interest in seeing partnerships emerge with Waubensee Community College to offer small business workshops to encourage homegrown businesses in Sugar Grove.
- There is fair community interest in prioritizing establishing standards for equity, implicit bias, and diversity training for all Village staff and employees, including police and service providers.

Station 2: Growth at a Neighborhood Scale

At the Growth at a Neighborhood Scale station, the planning team used what they learned about the community's preferences for what residential growth in Sugar Grove should look like at the last community workshop to start a conversation about where that growth should take place. Community members were invited to place differently colored tiles representing different housing typologies on the map to suggest general locations where each type would be welcomed.

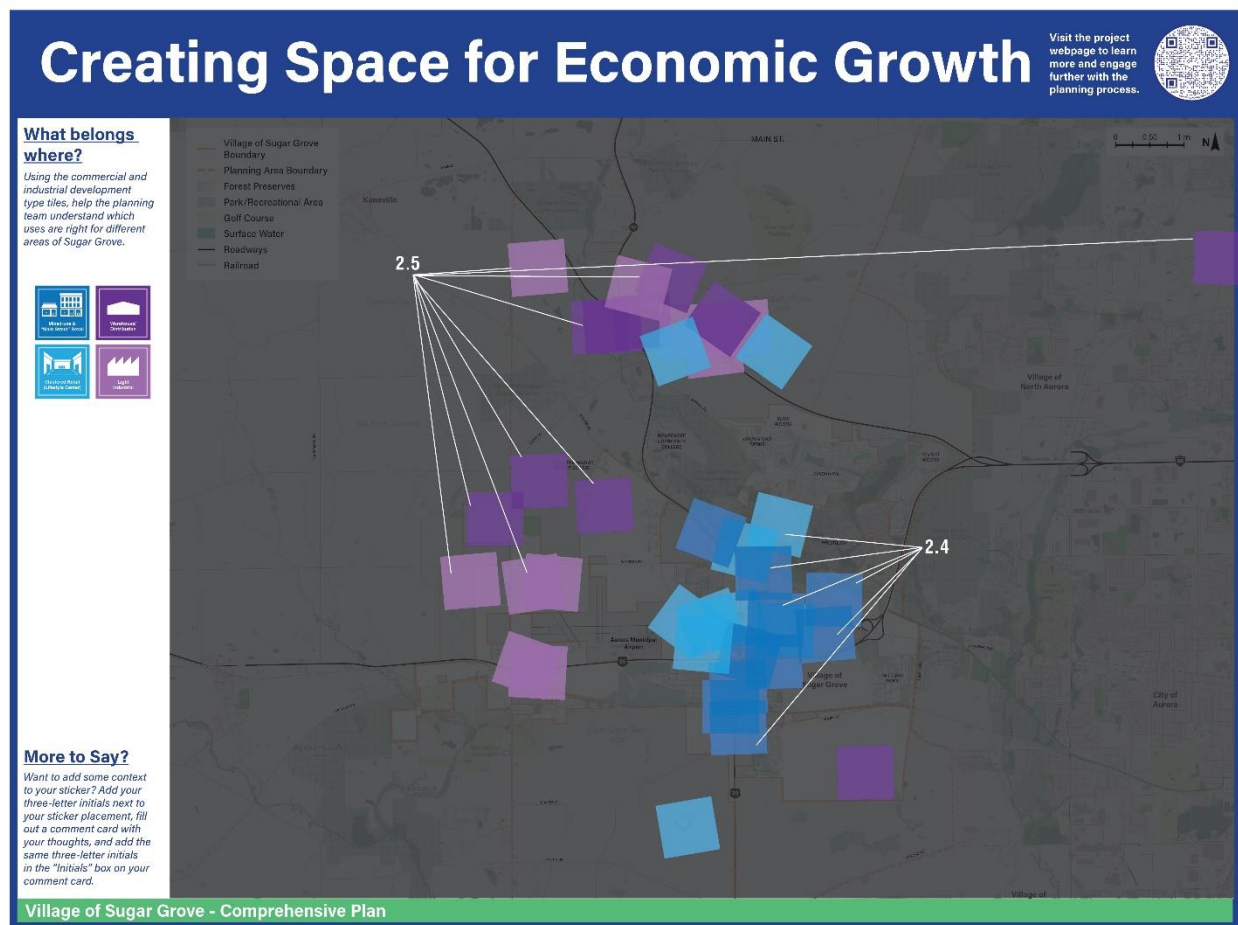


The housing typologies represented by the tiles included mid-scale mixed-use multifamily (20+ units) (red tiles), small-scale multifamily (4-16 units) (pink tiles), townhouses/small-lot single family (orange tiles), neighborhood single family/duplex (yellow tiles), and estate residential (brown tiles). The planning team combined all community contributions to this activity and learned the following:

- 2.1 The highest concentration of mid-scale mixed-use multifamily shows interest for this typology at the intersection of Route 47 and Route 56.
- 2.2 Community participants are most interested in higher density residential uses in the middle section of the Village (i.e. roughly north of Route 30/56 and south of Blackberry Creek).
- 2.3 The south area of the village shows a mix of lower density single (single family/duplex, estate residential) and multifamily (4-16 units) typologies.

Participants were invited to engage with a mapping activity that focused on identifying priority locations for commercial, retail, industrial, and warehouse distribution uses. The planning team explained that rational use of land functions will help diversify Sugar Grove's tax base and reduce the Village's long-term costs. Participants used differently colored tiles to locate their preference for future commercial and industrial

areas. The commercial/industrial typologies represented by the tiles included “Main Street”/mixed-use retail (dark blue), lifestyle center/clustered retail (light blue), warehouse/distribution (dark purple), and light industrial (light purple).



The planning team combined all community contributions to this activity and learned the following:

2.4. Retail uses were concentrated in the center of the Village, including along Main Street and along/at the intersection of Routes 30/56 and Route 47.

2.5. Industrial and warehouse/distribution uses were seen as appropriate for areas north and west of the Aurora Municipal Airport, at the intersection of Route 47 and I-88, and along I-88, east of the Route 47 intersection.

Participants were also given the opportunity to participate in a prioritization activity to convey their preferences for enhancing the local business climate. Participants were presented with a board with proposals and were encouraged to distribute ten dot stickers each across them reflecting their priorities.

Enhancing Sugar Grove's Business



Identifying Opportunities

Which of these recommendations and strategies do you most support to achieve the goal of strengthening the local business climate in Sugar Grove?

Incentivize the establishment of small businesses along Main Street with grant funds to develop and improve their storefronts.



20

Invest in a Main Street reconstruction program to create a more accessible and enjoyable Main Street experience.



24

Experiment with placemaking techniques, such as pop-up parks, food truck plazas, and temporary furniture in public places, to activate streetscapes and key areas with activities to attract foot traffic and customers to commercial areas.



13

Partner with an experienced non-profit or private operator to plan for and develop an incubation space/commercial kitchen to support small business development.

Identify gaps in Sugar Grove's high-speed broadband network, particularly in industrial and commercial areas, and invest in its implementation within key growth areas to attract technology innovators, new businesses, and a larger local workforce.



13

Cultivate partnerships between existing workforce development programs at the county level, within business communities, local school districts, and community colleges to provide youth with local career tracks and viable opportunities for long-term career growth and residency in Sugar Grove.



12

Leverage the airport to attract future commercial and industrial operators.



7

What's your idea for strengthening the local business climate in Sugar Grove? Grab a sticky note and share your thinking. Post it here when you're done.

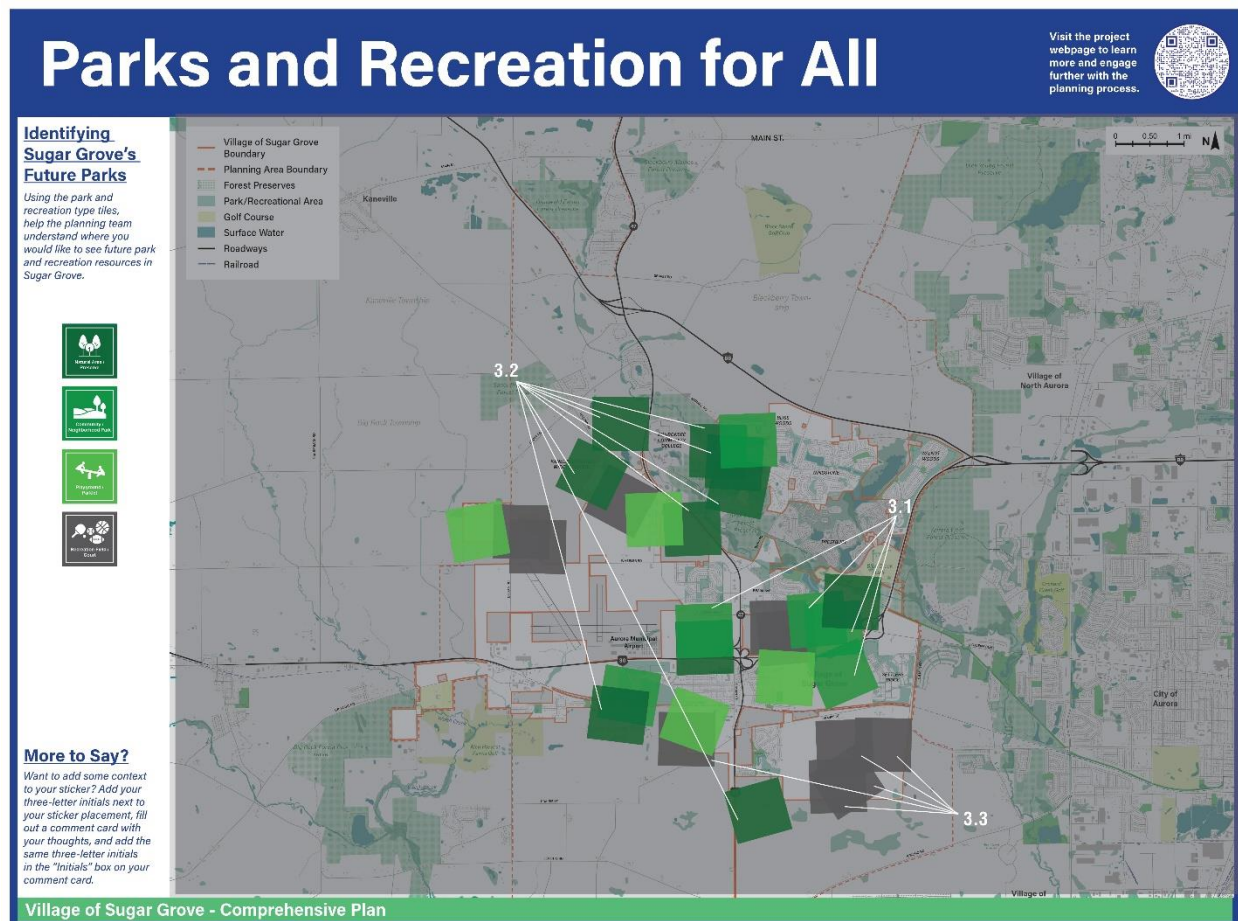
From our engagement with the community at this station, the planning team learned the following:

- There is interest in growing mid-scale mixed-use multifamily at the northeast of intersection of Route 47 and Route 56.
- There is interest in seeing more multifamily and townhouses/small-lot single family development in the northwest area of the Village.
- Community participants showed interest in mix of small-scale multifamily (4-16 units), neighborhood single family/duplex, and estate residential south of Route 30/56.
- The community expressed a consensus for walkable retail and commercial development in the center of the Village and pushing industrial and warehouse development to the edges.
- There is substantial community interest in investing in and redeveloping Main Street with a reconstruction program and incentives for businesses there.
- There is community interest in high-speed broadband network.
- The community prefers to invest more in existing workforce development programs and cultivate partnerships.
- There is little to no interest in prioritizing the development of an incubation space/commercial kitchen for small business.

Station 3: A Village Defined by Nature

At the A Village Defined by Nature station, community members were introduced to the existing natural resources of the village. The planning team showed a board with a map of forest preserves, parks, recreational area, golf course and surface water in or near the village.

Participants were invited to identify their preferred locations for future open space and recreation spaces within Sugar Grove. They were given differently colored tiles representing parks, playgrounds, natural areas, and recreation courts/fields to distribute across the map.



- 3.1. Community members expressed an interest in neighborhood parks in the center of the community, particularly to the northeast of the Route 30/56-Route 47 intersection.
- 3.2. Community members largely suggested siting natural areas and preserves towards the Village's edges, and particularly in areas where there are gaps between and outside of existing forest preserves to the north.
- 3.3. While recreation fields and courts were proposed throughout the Village, the highest concentration of these tiles are found in the southeastern-most corner of the Village.

Participants were invited to help prioritize strategies to protect Sugar Grove's natural resources through strategic growth planning and a focus on long-term sustainability. Participants distributed ten stickers each across proposals and strategies they saw as high priorities. The results are displayed in the image below.

Preserving Sugar Grove's Natural Setting

Visit the project webpage to learn more and engage further with the planning process.



Identifying Opportunities

Which of these recommendations and strategies do you most support to achieve the goal of preserving Sugar Grove's natural setting?

Encourage growth so that residential neighborhoods, commercial areas, and civic venues are close to and connected by the Village's natural areas, parks, and trails.



28

Preserve the native character of Sugar Grove's landscapes with landscape and planting guidelines for all public and private developments and infrastructure projects.



13

Embrace policies, strategies and plant palettes that prioritize planting for long-term resiliency on public and private property.



5

Protect ecologically sensitive open spaces and promote resiliency to flood events and a changing climate through a variety of policies, such as an ecological overlay district.



16

Establish planting and aesthetic guidelines for native landscaping at the development lot and block levels.



6

Establish goals and metrics for increasing tree density in developed and undeveloped areas throughout Sugar Grove.



9

Encourage enhanced passive open space recreational programming, such as birding, nature walks, camping, etc. in partnership with community organizations/members.



12

What's your idea for creating preserving Sugar Grove's natural setting? Grab a sticky note and share your thinking. Post it here when you're done.







Landscaping on RD 47 to enhance the esthetics of the village.

Village of Sugar Grove - Comprehensive Plan

From our engagement with the community at this station, the planning team learned the following:

- There is community interest to build more neighborhood parks in the central area of the village.
- There is community interest to build more recreation fields in the southern areas of the village.
- There is community interest to establish and preserve natural areas and forest preserves on the edges of the village.
- There is a desire to enhance the visual quality of major roads. Including Route 47.
- There is community interest in connecting different zones of the village by natural areas, parks, and trails.
- There is community interest in protecting ecologically sensitive open spaces and promote resiliency to flood events and a changing climate through a variety of policies, such as an ecological overlay district.
- There is community interest in preserving the native character of Sugar Grove's landscapes with landscape and planting guidelines for all public and private developments and infrastructure projects.
- There is community interest in encouraging enhanced passive open space recreational programming, such as birding, nature walks, camping, etc. in partnership with community organizations/members.

Event Comment Cards Collection:

<p>Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>Share your thoughts.</p> <p>INITIALS: <u>MT</u></p> <p>CONNECTION PATH/BIKE TRAIL ALONG TRACY</p>	
<p>Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>Share your thoughts.</p> <p>INITIALS: <u>RM</u></p> <p>PATH AROUND POND? PARK AT DEAD END</p> <p>More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process: https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove</p> <p></p>	<p>Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>Share your thoughts.</p> <p>INITIALS: <u>KMW</u></p> <p>This is a beautiful area that already contains a pedestrian trail (that needs to be extended past Rt. 30). I really hope the plan preserves this beautiful, natural area rather than filling it up with businesses. Not as enjoyable to run/bike without a scenic view.</p> <p>More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process: https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove</p> <p></p>
<p>Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>Share your thoughts.</p> <p>INITIALS: <u>RI</u></p> <p>A rec field and community park in the farmhand across from Joul that is unincorporated Sugar Grove</p> <p>More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process: https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove</p> <p></p>	<p>Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>Share your thoughts.</p> <p>INITIALS: <u>du</u></p> <p>Without connecting the existing neighborhoods I found this exercise a challenge. A central business/commercial area would help.</p> <p>More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process: https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove</p> <p></p>
<p>Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>Share your thoughts.</p> <p>INITIALS:</p> <p>- THEMES ON QUESTIONNAIRE ARE TOO GENERAL AND NOT NEAR ENOUGH QUESTIONS TO GET PUBLIC INPUT. HOW WAS THIS SURVEY DESIGNED TO ENHANCE THE COMMITTEES KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT THE RESIDENTS WANT OR BUSINESS NEEDS.</p> <p>- ENHANCING SUGARGROVE BUSINESS BRAND SHOULD TALK ABOUT EXPANDING INFRASTRUCTURE NOT JUST BROADBAND</p> <p>- MORE DISCUSSION NEEDS TO BE HELD ON I88/RT 47 - DOES THE COMMUNITY WANT COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL. THE COMMUNITY WAS FAVORING RESIDENTIAL WHEN COUNCIL MADE A DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION</p> <p>More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process: https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove</p> <p></p>	<p>Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>Share your thoughts.</p> <p>INITIALS:</p> <p>FOR A PROCESS THAT IS TO SHAPE THE VILLAGE FOR THE NEXT 10-20 YEARS THERE IS VERY LITTLE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BY LOCAL OFFICIALS, PLAN COMMISSION, STANDING</p> <p>THERE HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSION ABOUT WHAT CURRENTLY IS LACKING IN S.G., I.E. STORM WATER MANAGEMENT ON WEST SIDE OF RD 47/RT 47 ACROSS</p> <p>More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process: https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove</p> <p></p>

Share your thoughts.

INITIALS:

EG
The open area near the airport is so pretty! I'd be sad to see it developed & feel it would take away from the natural beauty. Can we preserve its immediate vicinity?

More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process:
<https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove>



Share your thoughts.

INITIALS:

EG
I'd welcome industrial + ~~farm~~ warehouse if this gets village, fire, library, etc. more funding

More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process:
<https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove>



Share your thoughts.

INITIALS:

I AM INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING A HISTORICAL DISTRICT. MAIN & MAPLE TELLING HISTORY THRU PLACING Boulders & PLAQUES EXPLAINING S.G. HISTORY. DOING AWAY WITH OVERHEAD WIRES & INSTALLING MORE DECORATIVE LIGHTING. NEW BUILDS & RENOVATION SHOULD BE DONE IN HISTORICAL STYLE IN THE HISTORICAL DISTRICT

More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process:
<https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove>



Share your thoughts.

INITIALS:

GMM
Kids need to be able to safely bike to the library

More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process:
<https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove>



Share your thoughts.

INITIALS:

Kasw
Windsor West is very separated from the main areas we try to get to. There is completed path from our neighborhood to the library, the Gailman Trail, or to Harter Middle School.

More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process:
<https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove>



Share your thoughts.

INITIALS:

llw
My children have friends in various neighborhoods, but due to 4th and 30 it is very challenging (and dangerous) for them to get their by bicycle. It also makes us feel disconnected as a community and leaves us a confederation of neighborhoods. Would love intentional connections to our community asset.

More to say? Visit the Comprehensive Plan website to continue engaging with the planning process:
<https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/sugar-grove>



Event Images:





Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan

Community Survey #2 – Findings Summary

Survey Window:

The Village of Sugar Grove Community Survey #2 (CS2) was conducted online from Friday, June 24, 2022 through Sunday, July 24, 2022.

Survey Location:

CS2 was hosted online via the Qualtrics XM survey platform. The survey was accessible via a link on the Village of Sugar Grove Comprehensive Plan website on the CMAP EngageHQ platform. The link to this page and announcements about the survey were posted on the Village website, included in utility bills mailed to Village residents, and promoted at the second community workshop on July 13, 2022. The survey was accessible to respondents in both English and Spanish and via computer and smart device.

Survey Description:

The Village of Sugar Grove CS2 was administered in Phase 2 (Visioning) of the planning process's community engagement timeline. The purposes of the survey included:

- Presenting the community with the draft comprehensive plan vision;
- Presenting the community with the structure of the comprehensive plan themes and recommendations;
- Understand the community's level of support for the draft comprehensive plan vision and themes;
- Understand the community's priorities among the draft comprehensive plan themes;
- Understand where the community sees potential for new residential, commercial, and industrial/warehouse growth in and around the village; and
- Identify any vision elements or potential themes that may have been missing from the draft.

The survey primarily included multiple choice questions, opportunities for short text responses, and heat-mapping activities.

Response quality, as measured by the survey host site's automated analysis is reported to be 100%. No errors were found in the response data set that could impact survey outcomes.

Survey Summary:

CS2 was open for contributions for over four weeks. In that time, 308 responses were recorded. The following summary reflects the responses of all respondents. Not every survey participant answered every question and, as a result, summaries of each set of results may report on fewer results than the total number of survey respondents.

Several questions asked respondents about basic demographic questions and questions about their experience as a member of the Sugar Grove community.

Q1: Respondent Age

Basic demographic data was collected revealing that no respondents were under the age of 18, 2.7% were between the ages of 18-25, 23.8% were between the ages of 26-39, 41.8% were between the ages of 40-55, 26.53% were between the ages of 56-70, 5.1% were between the ages of 71-85, and no participants were 86 years or older.

Q2: Respondent Tenure

Data was collected on respondents' tenure in the community—reflected in Figure 1. The majority of respondents (50.7%) have lived in the community for more than 4 but less than 20 years. 22% have lived there for less than 4 years. 18% have lived in the community for more than 20 years and 9% did not live in the Village of Sugar Grove.

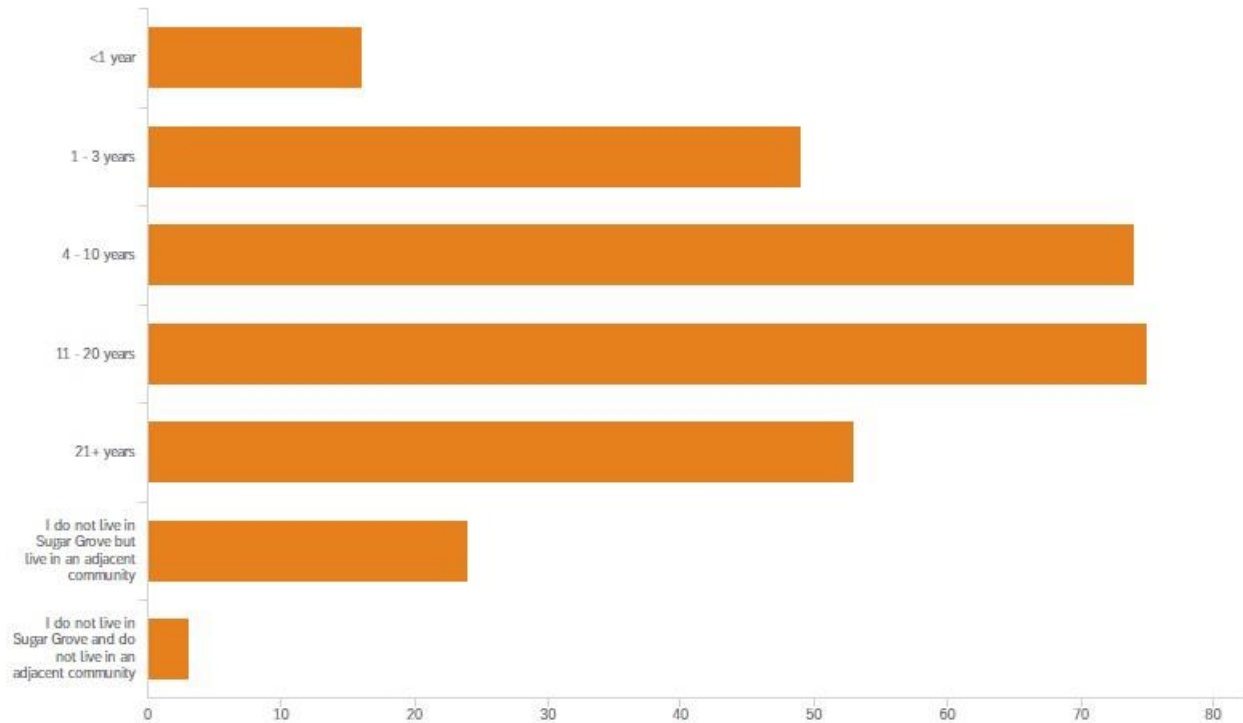


Figure 1: Responses to the question “How long have you lived in Sugar Grove?”

Q3-4: Support for Comprehensive Plan Themes

Respondents were asked to identify their level of support for each of the ten draft comprehensive plan themes. Respondents were presented with a scale bar with options between one and ten and asked to select an area of the scale that represented their level of support for each theme, where one represented the lowest support and ten represented the highest support.

All ten themes received an average score indicating above two-thirds support (all themes receiving a mean level of support score of 6.8 or higher). The ten themes are listed below in order of level of support (more support listed first) with the mean response identified in parentheses.

1. Protect Sugar Grove's natural resources through strategic growth planning and a focus on long-term sustainability (8.1)
2. Preserve Sugar Grove's natural setting/feel with sustainable open space practices that focus on recreation, access, and resiliency (8.0)
3. Enhance the local business climate (7.8)
4. Plan with smart growth principles (7.8)
5. Create destinations for community gathering and entertainment in Sugar Grove (7.7)
6. Protect and enhance the neighborhood scale of Sugar Grove (7.6)
7. Enhance the feeling of safety for pedestrians and cyclists (7.5)

8. Diversify Sugar Grove's tax base and reduce the Village's long-term costs (7.5)
9. Create more opportunities for all people to thrive in Sugar Grove (7.2)
10. Improve **connectivity** throughout Sugar Grove and to nearby destinations (6.8)

Q5: Themes and Priorities

Respondents were asked to indicate how strongly they agreed with the statement "these ten comprehensive plan themes reflect my priorities for the future of Sugar Grove." They were presented with a scale bar ranging from one (strongly disagree) to five (strongly agree). The mean result from this scale bar question was a score of 4.04, indicating a high level of agreement with the question statement.

Q6: **Identifying Missing Thematic Elements**

Survey respondents were asked "what, if anything, do you think is missing from these ten draft comprehensive plan themes?" Respondents were given a chance to provide written responses to this question and provided the following contributions:

- I don't want Sugar Grove to turn into a warehouse district **even if it means taxes stay high**. Diversifying the tax base is not worth turning the town into a cesspool.
- All planning should seek to maintain the **rural/exurb feel** of Sugar Grove. Exurb space at the edge of large metropolitan districts such as Chicagoland are special places and growth, if not managed, will inevitably cause the current exurb to become a suburb. Illinois demographics are **trending older**. Specific planning for the future should prioritize facilities and open space for use by senior citizens (parks with trees, benches, level walking paths Not playgrounds and soccer fields).
- A normal downtown area. Affordable housing should not be included we already have the two senior centers which count as low income housing.
- This is a very **biased survey** where you can insert any town into these questions. Of course we want smart growth and a safe environment for our family. The survey should be focused on how we **get business to invest in the village during this bad economy**. We are not getting a large bump in population, so will business be willing to move here? You should also be asking how much are residents be willing to have their **property taxes go up** to pay for useless programs like a bike path through the village.
- Everyone wants SG to be **small town feel**. Not anymore. Dollars blind people. Blueberry muffins brought to planning commission get positive support and yes votes. NIMBY is strong. Trustees need to listen to all people. Where is more housing for **I/DD** people? Route 47 is turning into Randall Road. By having stores be farther away makes people plan better. Everything close is multiple short trips. **Tax incentives for businesses** is unbelievable to attract them.
- **It is a good strong plan.**
- Adjusted zoning boundaries - north and west.
- No **warehouses**.
- Each change and how it affects neighborhoods will determine how people support change. How much any change will affect taxes, traffic and noise would determine support. Hard to give a Yes absolutely to do a change with general questions. But nice you are including public in making our desires be known. Thanks!
- Nothing missing - **safety** is foremost. **Adding business** would be smart to help reduce costs for homeowners, while also preserving the beauty of Sugar Grove.
- WTH does "create more opportunities for people to thrive in SG". That's an innocuous and very broad yet vague theme. Get rid of it or **be more specific**.

- Increased police manpower, traffic flow and lights for residents to safely exit neighborhoods, revenue to support infrastructure repairs.
- What to do with the space at I-88 & Route 47. Ask if the residents want to see their taxes skyrocket to pay for a bike path, since it was hinted. Ask if the future of Sugar Grove be jeopardized over one sub-division. If we have a cash surplus, what are the key priorities where that should be spent? Should new residential be a priority despite all of the issues with the state?
- More retail and restaurant businesses.
- Bike Trail plans, open space plans, road plans. More discussion about commercial development. This is the worst survey I have been a part of. Who is the person that designed this plan? Did the Village Board or Village Staff approve these questions? This plan has Sugar Grove's name on it. The responsibility for this poor questionnaire falls on staff, the committee, and the boards shoulders for how poorly this is done.
- Increase adult condo/townhouse development. Bridge connector between Windsor Point and Prestbury walking trails.
- Would be nice to have a downtown type area with bars, restaurants and shops. Goes along with entertainment though. More opportunity for business.
- Focus on community and uphold property values.
- Themes are too general to rate. This questionnaire is a not worth the time to it took to complete. The Village and the Committee should be ashamed that their names are associated with such poor work.
- We need businesses. We need restaurants. We leave Sugar Grove regularly to go out for dinner, get a drink, spend time with family because there is nowhere to go in Sugar Grove. So disappointing.
- No trucking companies or big box stores.
- Plan for more restaurants, coffee shop, retail.
- The current draft is very comprehensive.
- Equal representation on the Village Board of each section of the village. (Divide the village into wards).
- School growth considerations. Increase Park district options.
- We need more commercial establishments.
- Ensure that the "small town feel" is protected. To do so, it is not in the community's best interest to build apartment complexes. Everyone that lives in Sugar Grove is proud to be here and it feels like an accomplishment. The exclusivity of the village makes people even more proud to be here.
- Balance growth with the increased traffic congestion, crime, and costs that result.
- Nothing that I can think of at this time as I fully support each of these aspirations.
- Making sure we keep out big box and logistics companies.
- Specificity. So broad and general that it is hard to discern what one may be agreeing or disagreeing with.
- Keeping Sugar Grove as a small community.
- The survey was a bit vague. Overall Sugar Grove is a terrific place to live. Having more restaurants, stores for residents/teens would be great and would help the residential taxes. Thank you.

- I would love to see a true downtown area for Sugar Grove. Complete with a town square. This town square could be used for concerts and other social gatherings. I think the perfect area for this would be the land between 56 and Galena east of 47. This is a large area that could be a base for the town square and branch out to other businesses. Parking should be along the outside so that the town center is a safe area with cars. Bridges could be built for pedestrians and bike traffic coming from the east side of Sugar Grove.
- Assurances of no warehouses or industrial in Sugar Grove. We are semi-rural, and location on I-88 was supposed to be a 'Tech Corridor'. Attract office spaces with higher paying jobs.
- Nothing sounds very good.
- Nearly 70% of our taxes subsidize the school system. How can we give relief to retired citizens on a fixed income from ever rising property tax bills.
- Security, crown development, taxes.
- Nothing! if you're interested check out <https://www.strongtowns.org/> and <https://youtube.com/c/NotJustBikes> not sure if either of this help but interesting topics.
- Growing a community atmosphere with a 'downtown' area. Small shops, restaurants, bars, cafes, coffee shops etc.
- Disability assistance; children programs.
- I want Sugar Grove and my neighborhood to remain quiet and a sleepy little town. I DO NOT want things that bring people to Sugar Grove for the weekend or for it to have a box store on every corner. Preserve the natural areas we have and let Sugar Grove remain a quiet town.
- Covers everything, themes are pretty broad leaving them open to different interpretations.
- Infrastructure maintenance and development. More support for police department.
- Growth should be #1. Sugar Grove needs a focal point. Something to center around-should be located near Route 47 and Route 30. Visible to people traveling through our village. Every city around us seems to have something unique to offer. A large water area with fountains, and community park to gather for holiday events would be nice. Sugar Grove doesn't seem to be unified.
- The Village needs to not bring in more banks and gas stations or expensive ice cream shops to help with taxes. They need to look for family friendly places, teen hangouts and affordable sit down independent dining restaurants. Continue to say no to warehouses and truck stops.
- Expand Route 47 near rail overpass. Improve visibility on Prairie Street and Route 47 or close it.
- This may fall into one of the above categories, but having updated playgrounds for children would be nice.
- This question is very vague. I am sure most responses will agree with all of the Themes. You can remove Sugar Grove and insert any other community and the same themes would be strongly supported. How is this comp plan unique from any other community? The prior Comp plan supported all of these themes. Very disappointed that this question is on a survey! Is this a professional survey?
- If you START by identifying our important natural resources, ie: drainages, streams, oak woodlands, wetlands and present protected open space and then planning in a way that connects these and protects them such as being careful of adjacent uses you will be much more successful in attaining your very fine goals.
- Schools!
- Sit down restaurants, bars and breweries that are not fast food.

- Please plan for our **schools** as you plan for community growth. There's little more damaging than overcrowded schools so plan and build now! The high school is a dinosaur. Please consider this my top priority!
- **Widening Route 47** to be 2 lanes in each direction throughout our village. Protect our aquifer.
- More restaurants, more stores, movie theater, swimming pool, ice cream store a real downtown area.
- It depends on how the priorities are ranked, and what amount of relative effort/money, etc. goes into each.
- Stop trying to take land away from **Elburn and Blackberry Township**. You have plenty of land in your jurisdiction to make developments.
- I have an issue with the refusal of growth by building in sugar grove yet we allow crappy building to remain including questionable apartments right by our elementary school. There is zero parks, zero shopping except basics and zero entertainment.
- Keep the community and neighboring communities **rural and safe** from polluters of our natural environment we chose to live here because of this.
- Less is more. People are drawn to the area because of the **farmlands and nature** setting. Don't ruin the area with development. Prioritize the health and safety of all residents, not just within the village. Be a good neighbor.
- Safe access to the Virgil Gilman trail **for pedestrians & bicyclist**. Additional sit-down restaurants & fast food drive throughs for beef & hotdogs or Mexican food.
- Help ensure affordability to stay in Sugar Grove. **The taxing** from the school district is excessive and very concerning. We are hearing the high school wants to do a "facelift /remodel. More \$ to the schools will make living in Sugar Grove unacceptable and tax us out.
- **Not allow big businesses** or corporations to come in and change the small town feel.
- Entertainment and restaurants.
- More food places/ stuff to do.
- Let's be Business friendly!!! Other towns are doing it. Don't focus on equity and affordable housing. It's fine as is!
- Not just preserving nature and enhancing nature, but **outdoor recreation**.
- I would like to see more detailed ideas on how to reduce the cost of living in Sugar Grove and more specifics on how to increase the opportunities for more people to move in.
- **Roadway connectivity. Bike path connectivity.**
- Clear communication for environmental sustainability of the village which links development, recreation, culture etc.
- There needs to be more options for entertainment in the town. Restaurants, coffee shops, bars, boutiques.
- Protect Sugar Grove's natural resources through strategic growth planning and a focus on long-term sustainabilityAND be a partner to surrounding residential areas to sustain natural resources.
- I believe that adding definition to being a responsible/good neighbor to the surrounding area, especially in areas of focus for future expansion of the village. What is on the outskirts of town now, will be "in town" or part of the town a decade from now.

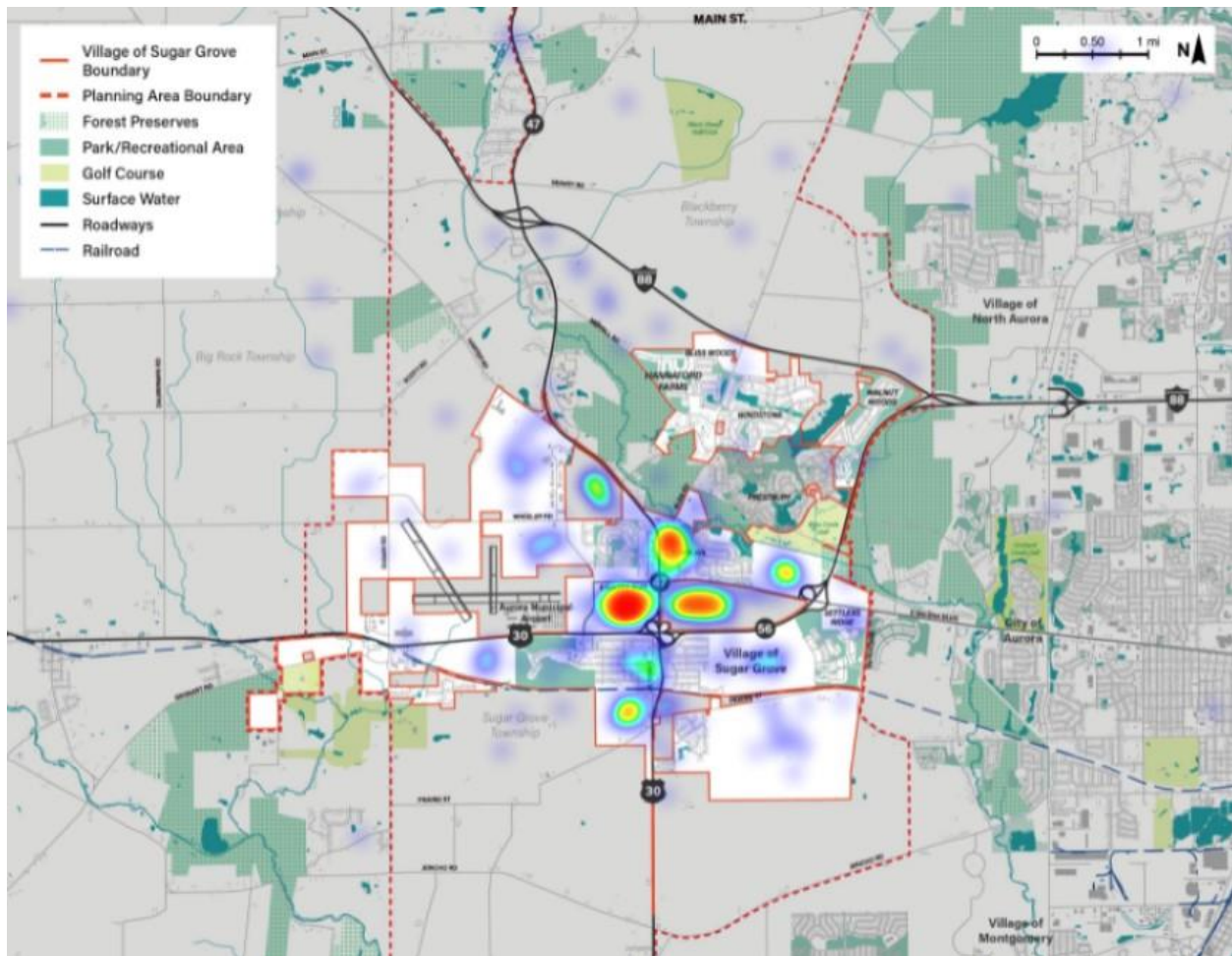
- Stop your incessant connection to the old ways of doing things. It's time to build Sugar Grove and get out of your comfort zone. Stop settling for every other community around us building up.
- Need a community pavilion or outdoor meeting space to hold events, gather etc. We have no sense of community here because we have no "central location", downtown or gathering space.
- A strong downtown or central hub for sugar grove that other communities boast.
- Limit truck traffic and irresponsible tax financing for developers.

Mapping Activities

For the next three questions, respondents were invited to click on up to three locations on the map where they preferred to see different types of growth and development. The results of these question are reflected in the heat maps below. Brighter colors (red, orange, yellow) represent more selections and cooler colors (green, teal, blue, purple) represent fewer selections. Bright spots indicate clusters of participant selections.

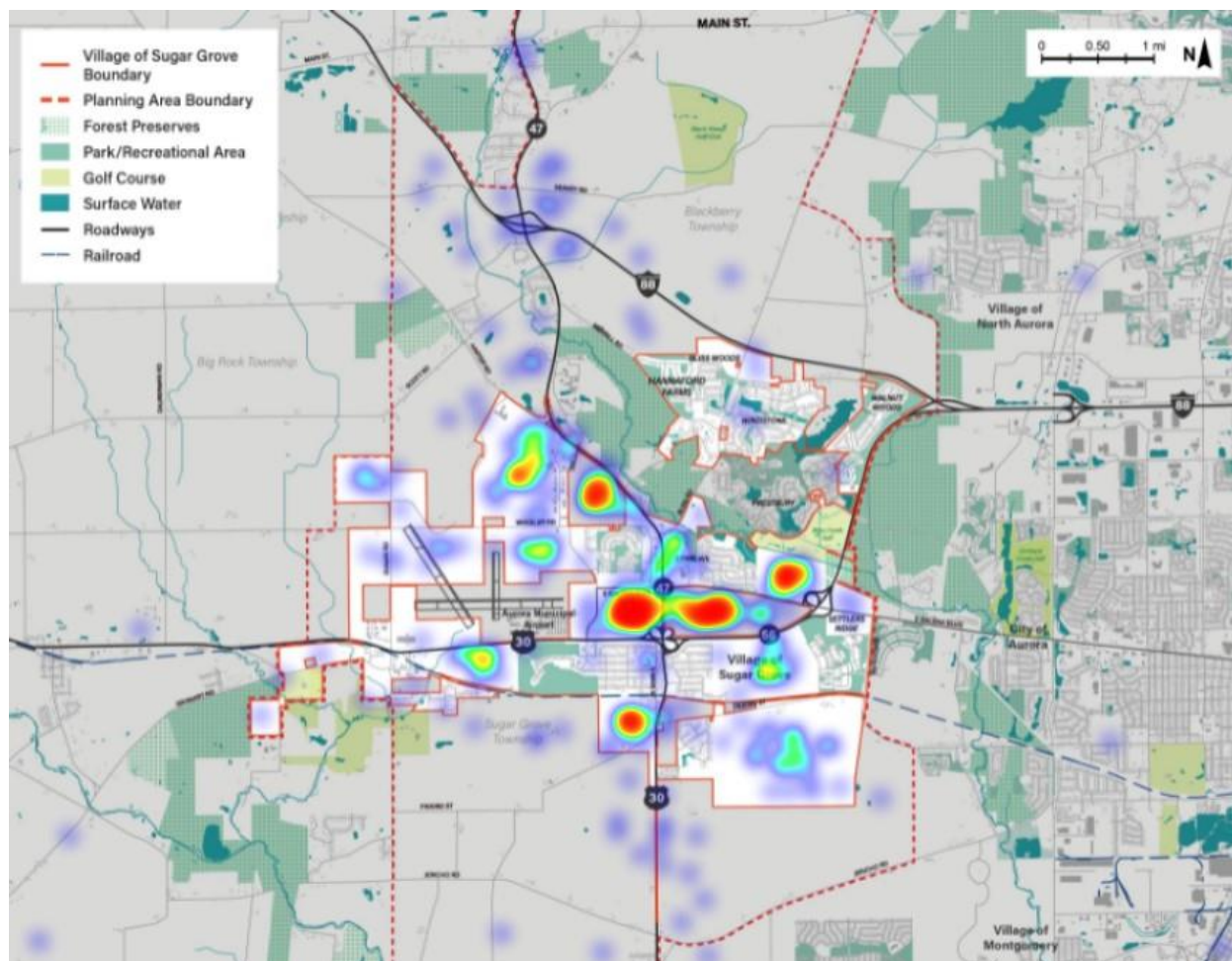
Q7: Planning for Walkable Commercial Growth

Survey respondents were presented with an image of a map and asked “where in and around Sugar Grove do you see the greatest potential for economic growth where small-scale/walkable retail uses are appropriate?”



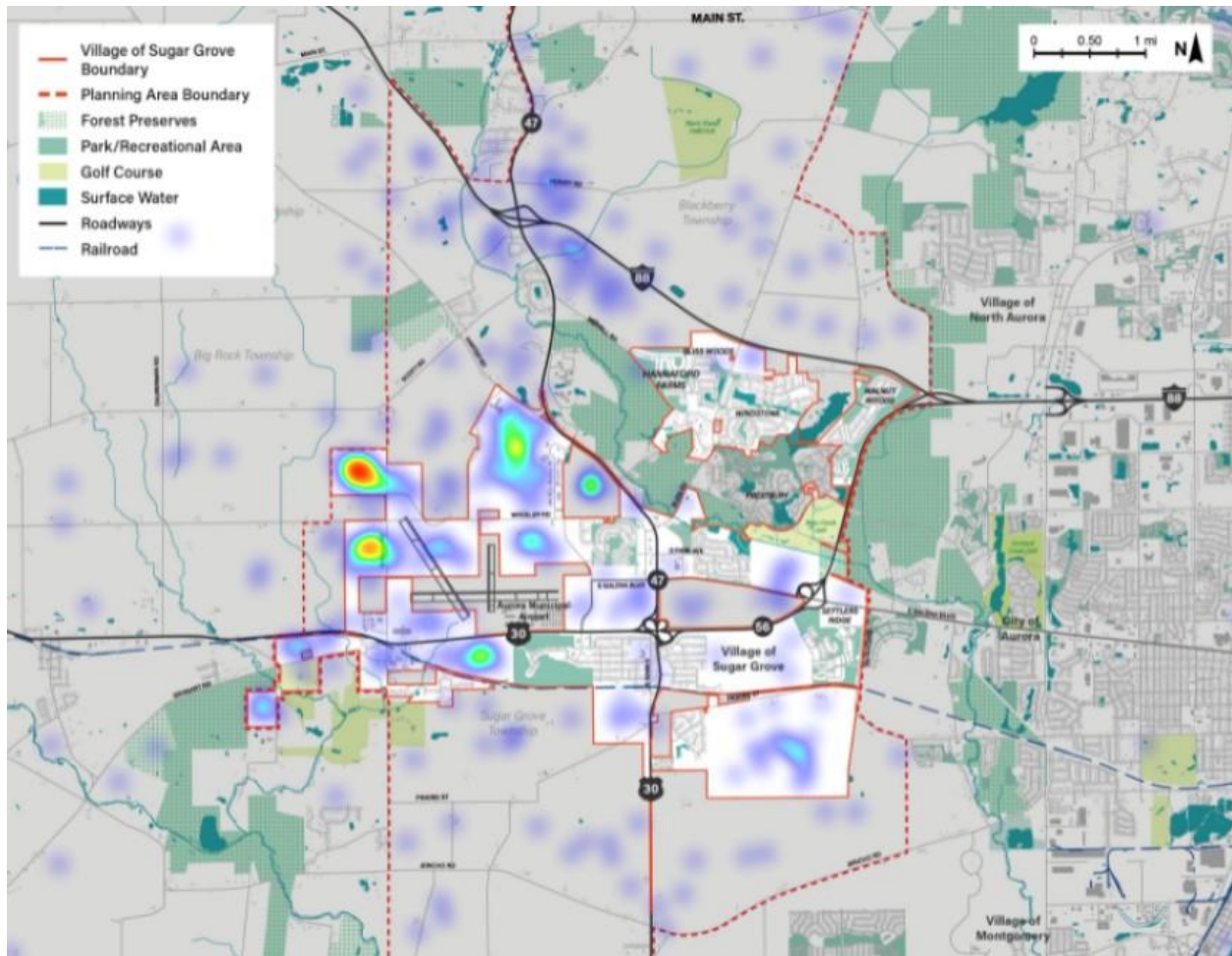
Q8: Planning for Large-scale Commercial Growth

Survey respondents were presented with an image of a map and asked “where in and around Sugar Grove do you see the greatest potential for economic growth where large-scale/big box retail uses are appropriate?”



Q9: Planning for Industrial and Warehouse/Distribution Growth

Survey respondents were presented with an image of a map and asked “where in and around Sugar Grove do you see the greatest potential for economic growth where industrial and warehouse/distribution uses are appropriate?”



Q10: Additional Comments

Respondents were asked to provide written responses for any additional comments they had for the planning team.

- I am not in favor of Sugar Grove going into the landlord business. I do not support Sugar Grove building a town hall or other buildings with the hope that commercial businesses will follow.
- Warehousing should be discouraged. It adds higher levels of traffic congestion and possibly pollution than other development possibilities. Light industrial/technology encouraged. Planning should anticipate autonomous vehicles (including small delivery type vehicles used on college campuses). Easements should be set, new development should include right of ways, etc. The undeveloped greenfield space could make Sugar Grove attractive for early pilot studies - for instance, set aside land for a 'driverless roadway' between SG and the Fox Valley Myers station. Self-driving taxi, bus, or similar could exclusively shuttle people to the station without fear of accidents with human operated vehicles. Eventually, when the US deems self-driving vehicles capable of operating alongside human operated vehicles, the exclusive use can be dropped. The Route 47 and I-88 intersection could be targeted for EV only fueling stations for both cars and trucks. Agrotourism should be considered in planning use areas. Previous Kane County land use planning marked the western third of the county as desirable to maintain as agricultural. SG is ideally positioned as the 'gateway' from Chicagoland to this area.

- It scares me that warehouses will be built with no concern for the people who live by the land. It was my understanding that the new village government was going to get business in sugar grove not outside of it and that is what seems to be happening. For example crown is paying for the TIF study. So if they are paying for it then they are going to get their way and the land will become concrete city. Take a ride west on I-88 to Peace road. You will see what a data center and warehouses look like. It's not pretty.
- What does justice have to do with anything about planning?
- The Route 47 and I-88 corridor is the best location for any of these projects. Hanna did Farms should not dictate the future of the village.
- No big industrial warehouses. We are too small and need to keep it that way. Go back to comments submitted by people from other towns that approved that kind of "progress" and how negative it has been for them.
- Please build more bike paths to connect the city
- Do not want large scale or industrial. Would ruin the feel of the town. Small unique retail and restaurants, a locally owned coffee shop, and more parks would be ideal. Maybe even a splashpad.
- please consider development at Main Street and Route 47. Great hard stop corner with lots of traffic.
- No warehouses.
- NO industrial or warehouse/distribution in Sugar Grove.
- Would love to see a Target, more restaurants, and more activities for kids.
- Higher quality restaurants would be nice. No more fast food.
- Hard to work with the map. Development along major roads Route 47 for example makes sense.
- Retail in brick and mortar is dying. It's done online. SG doesn't have a walkable downtown. Don't want anymore growth on Route 47. ALL THE RETAIL we need is within a few miles on Randall. We need to increase capacity here in town. It won't lead to significant tax reduction.
- Bringing more High-tech to Sugar Grove would be good. Reducing the regulatory market, and reducing restrictions on residents would help greatly. Our taxes are far too high and really need to come down significantly. No one wants to move here or set up a business as it costs too much and the city has too many rules. Stop setting up more HOAs, just have free-standing communities, please. It doesn't help that our school is more than half our tax bill. Our police department wastes our money as well, someone please explain why we need 3-4 times the number of vehicles for the number of officers we actually have on patrol at a time.
- How did we become part of this plan? It looks like this is a large scale plan for the far western suburbs. We moved to Sugar Grove 16 years ago because it is small, quiet, and safe. We like it this way and don't want the kind of growth that you are planning. This whole plan is concerning. Have you read and fully understand this plan? Did we vote on this? How is this being approved? Just a few questions and thoughts that we have.
- We need a walkable downtown like Batavia, St Charles or Geneva!
- I have lived in Sugar Grove for most of my life. As a child, we had to depend on neighboring communities for festivals, shopping, hang out spots, etc. I'm now a mom of three and would love to attend events in our community, shop and spend my money in Sugar Grove, and give my kids a place to hang out at when they get together with friends. It's been discussed for years and no one has ever built us a downtown. Sugar Grove needs it!

- I don't think warehouse/distribution would be a good fit for Sugar Grove. Traffic/noise along Route 47 is bad enough and added truck traffic due to warehouses/distribution would only make this worse.
- I hope the planning team will work to develop consensus among residents for the plans, and also strongly take into consideration the residents' opinions as you make future decisions on the plan.
- Thank you for the opportunity to inform change in Sugar Grove! I feel that there are plenty of spaces in Sugar Grove to help build more attractive business space and also attract more people to Sugar Grove from neighboring communities to dine, meet, and work.
- We need less retail and more open space with tennis courts, basketball courts, bike trails, open venues to host markets and music. Fort Collins, Colorado is a great example. If it is accessible by foot or bike people will come. Living in suburbs we have no safe way to get anywhere except by car. It would be nice if kids were able to get around town on bikes and such. Find a way to connect all the different subdivisions in Sugar Grove to a main destination by a sidewalk/trail.
- There should be industrial, Corp base off Route 47 and I-88, away from residential but easy access.
- Make it easy for business and industry to locate here without tax breaks. Make decisions that take in the best interests of ALL the village residents and not just one section or subdivision.
- Please consider the community's needs: grocery shopping, restaurants and a coffee shop. Please do not build apartment complexes. More single family homes needed.
- Try to keep Sugar Grove the great community it is with the beautiful nature areas it has. And any large commercial industries out and small local shops & businesses something local can and would support.
- From my experience in living in Oswego which experienced rapid growth, recruiting and developing big box retailers has very little upside for the community. It results in increased traffic congestion, increased crime, and a decline in quality of life for residents while ultimately contributing very little tax relief to residents due to the problems and costs associated. Growth for growth's sake is not a laudable goal for the residents.
- Stay away from industrial and distribution facilities. They will destroy Sugar Grove almost overnight.
- I do not support any Trucking companies and/or big box stores.
- Do not change Sugar Grove!
- Big box retail, warehouses, and manufacturing is definitely Not appropriate for Sugar Grove. People moved here for the semi-rural setting. Lots of big box retailers are already present within a short drive.
- <https://youtube.com/c/NotJustBikes> and <https://www.strongtowns.org/>
- New/additional Designated 55+ Housing Development Area similar to Meadowridge Villas.
- Don't ruin why we relocated here.
- Limit big box stores. No Walmart.
- Overall well planned.
- No big box stores or warehouses in or around Sugar Grove. I don't care about being taxes down, I want peace and quiet. I do not want to live in a family fun zone or a destination for people to come. Go live in Geneva or Naperville if you want that. Small restaurants and local businesses is what I want but I don't want Sugar Grove to be a fun place to come for the day.

- We do not need big box retailers, everything we need is already within 15 minutes.
- This comp plan update has been worthless. We are maps asking about connecting paths, mixed use development, asking about lot sizes, location of multi-family housing.... There is so much more that should be addressed than three maps. The Village should be embarrassed to call this a comprehensive plan update.
- Limit Big Box stores. No warehouses, trucking depots, industrial development at all as it doesn't fit with the mindset and culture of our small town. Diversify growth in the way of outdoor sports complexes, restaurants, lodging.
- Need retail/activities to do in town, more sit-down restaurants, breweries and bars. No more fast food.
- No industrial/warehouse!!!
- Please, no unsightly and resource consuming warehousing.
- No big box, no industrial.
- Keep industrial/warehouse buildings away from Elburn and Blackberry Township. That can all go on your southern border. Build businesses we are all taking our money to go their towns I personally rarely shop in Sugar Grove.
- Leave the natural beauty of our rural areas the same. If farmers need to sell turn into prairie like it was before the farmers arrived.
- Leave Blackberry Township alone. If you want to develop industry and big commercial, do it far to the south away from homes where farmers would be happy to sell and there is no risk of safety.
- Less truck traffic- Better traffic safety on Route 47 for drivers (less trucks) More restaurants/businesses More green space Update parks.
- None of those ugly warehouses.
- Main Street has older homes that could be rezoned into businesses. A few years ago there were multiple homes for sale on Main street between Cross and the tracks. This would of been a great opportunity to build up a boutique, small shop area destination which Sugar Grove so desperately needs to keep people in town. Currently, if I am going to meet a friend, we have no nice place to meetup in town. We need small, non-chain, coffee shop and businesses. We also need the area on Route 47, Cross Street to Galena to be made to look better. The whole stretch is an eye sore, and this is what people see when driving thru Sugar Grove.
- People do NOT want a distribution center in SG!
- Please be mindful of growing developments that may attract more people which could have a negative impact on Sugar Grove. More people bring more crime, pollution, etc.
- Adding a few stores/restaurants, but not disrupting the beauty/ nature of Sugar Grove.
- I don't want any of these items added to Sugar Grove. I enjoy the small town feel of this community and have no problem driving 10 minutes to get access to this.
- This was a great survey! Keep up the great work and staying progressive.
- Condos=bad. Green energy- money waster Tax incentives for businesses= good.
- The Route 47/Galena Boulevard area has had a lot built up. Using those existing spaces for development is fine, but I'd love to see the area from Galena to Municipal and Municipal to 30 undeveloped. That is one of our community's prettiest areas and great for recreational pedestrian paths. Putting in more buildings would ruin the aesthetic. Build further down Route 47 near Waubensee.

- Night life is lacking. Currently you have to leave and go to Aurora, Geneva, Batavia, or St Charles if you want to do that. We have very limited options in Sugar Grove that allows us to spend money on our own community.
- The look and feel of retail and gathering should be inviting. Wasco has done a beautiful job on their downtown restaurants and shopping with aesthetics and feel.
- No to big box retail, industrial, warehouse distribution.
- Create community advisory committees especially with environmental and cultural projects.
- No large-scale big box stores or industrial warehouse use in Sugar Grove! Good restaurants and small shops is what the feel of this town needs. A cute “downtown” similar to the Wasco area would be ideal. We are surrounded by corn fields and forest preserves, please don't lose that!
- We have an industrial area west of Route 47 (by Nicks Furniture, Public Works, etc). Keep all industrial/warehousing in that area.
- I would like to see the previously proposed bridge from Windsor Pointe to the bike path completed. It would also be nice to have a walkable area is shops and restaurants like 3rd Street in Geneva.
- When looking at industrial complexes - consider the background of the companies in question - A digital center by a company like Amazon/Facebook have the know-how and can work with a community to use berms/landscape to keep it from being unsightly (and not have the traffic concerns of warehousing). My biggest concern with Crown's original plan was the lack of background and the sheer amount they planned on building - especially considering all the similar buildings that have been built in recent years. Having partially filled, eye-sore buildings with a corresponding increase in traffic, noise + air pollution isn't fitting with Sugar Grove image. Concentrating on what Crown has had success with - smaller businesses (at I-88/Route 47) and homes would be more fitting and be a true benefit to the area.
- Do not do anything that will encourage more truck traffic on Route 47
- Please don't allow Crown to develop warehouses, truck stops, gas stations, etc in the I-88/Route 47 vicinity. Please keep it a natural area and farmland. Thank you for asking for opinions from the neighboring communities. It is very neighborly of you.
- I do not want what happened to Elwood to happen in Sugar Grove or any neighboring areas. Route 47 is already too busy with truck traffic. If Crown trucking gets to build it will destroy our property values and our relaxed way of living, which is what drew us to retire here in Sugar Grove.
- Please stop listening to the older residents that have been here forever and start listening and fostering opportunities for the younger ones. They deserve consideration; otherwise SG will be another town where the next generations don't want to live.
- No warehousing - too many trucks and pollution.

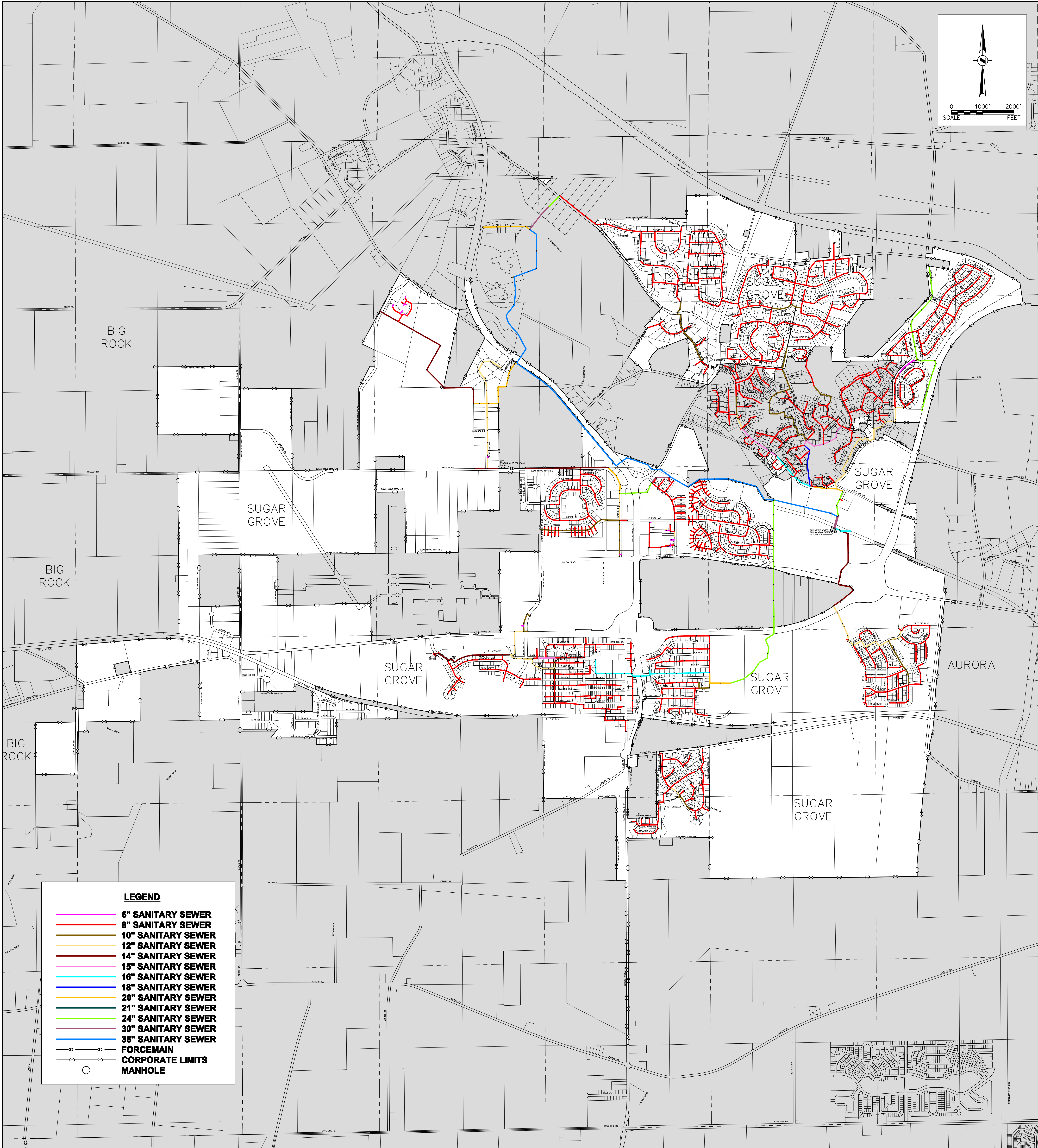
Insights (see crosstabs in Appendix 1 for detail):

- When asked to indicate their level of support for the draft comprehensive plan theme “Create destinations for community gathering and entertainment in Sugar Grove”, reported support was strongest with the youngest respondents (average score of 10/10 from respondents between the ages of 18-25) and support decreased steadily with age, with respondents between 26-55 years of age reporting an average level of support of 9/10, respondents between 56-70 years of age reporting an average level of support of 7/10, and respondents over 71 years of age reporting an average level of support of 6/10.

- The youngest survey respondents (those age 18-25) had the highest level of support for the draft comprehensive plan theme “Preserve Sugar Grove’s natural setting/feel with sustainable open space practices that focus on recreation, access, and resiliency”, with an average indicated level of support of 9.1/10 as compared to the total average indicated level of support among all age groups of 8/10.
- Sugar Grove’s youngest (18-25 years) and oldest (71-85 years) respondents indicated the highest level of support for the draft comprehensive plan theme “Protect Sugar Grove’s natural resources through strategic growth planning and a focus on long-term sustainability” with average scores of 9.3/10 and 9.1/10 as compared to the total average indicated level of support among all age groups of 8.1/10.
- Sugar Grove’s youngest respondents (18-25 years) showed the lowest level of support for the draft comprehensive plan theme “Improve connectivity throughout Sugar Grove and to nearby destinations” with an average score of 5/10 as compared to the total average indicated level of support among all age groups of 7/10.
- Some draft comprehensive plan themes saw lower levels of support from respondents who lived outside the community, as compared to support indicated from respondents who live within the community.
 - Respondents outside the community indicated an average level of support of 6.5/10 for the draft theme “Diversify Sugar Grove’s tax base and reduce the Village’s long-term costs” as compared to the total average indicated level of support among all respondents of 7.5/10.
 - Respondents outside the community indicated an average level of support of 6.7/10 for the draft theme “Enhance the local business climate” as compared to the total average indicated level of support among all respondents of 7.9/10.
- Approximately three times as many respondents within the 71-85 year age range selected “somewhat disagree” with the statement “these ten Comprehensive Plan themes reflect my priorities for the future of Sugar Grove” than any other age group. Though only 6.7% of respondents within this group selected “somewhat disagree”, with the rest selecting “neutral”, “somewhat agree”, or “strongly agree”.
- More respondents aged 26-39 years either “somewhat agree” or “strongly agree” with the statement “these ten Comprehensive Plan themes reflect my priorities for the future of Sugar Grove” than any other age group (67% versus 50-60%).
- Respondents who have lived in Sugar Grove the longest were the most likely to select “strongly disagree” in response to the statement “these ten Comprehensive Plan themes reflect my priorities for the future of Sugar Grove.” 7.5% of respondents within this group selected this response.
- The number of respondents who chose “strongly agree” in response to the statement “these ten Comprehensive Plan themes reflect my priorities for the future of Sugar Grove” increased with residential tenure, with the least tenured respondents (having lived in Sugar Grove for less than one year) selecting “strongly agree” at a rate of 18.8% and the most tenured respondents (having lived in Sugar Grove for over 21 years) selecting “strongly agree” at a rate of 34%.

VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE

SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM



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Engineering Enterprises, Inc.
Consulting Engineers
52 Wheeler Road
Sugar Grove, Illinois 60554
630.466.6700 / www.eeiweb.com

VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE
10 MUNICIPAL DRIVE
SUGAR GROVE, ILLINOIS

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS
1	10/19/2009	NEW DEVELOPMENT

SANITARY SEWER MAP
VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE
KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

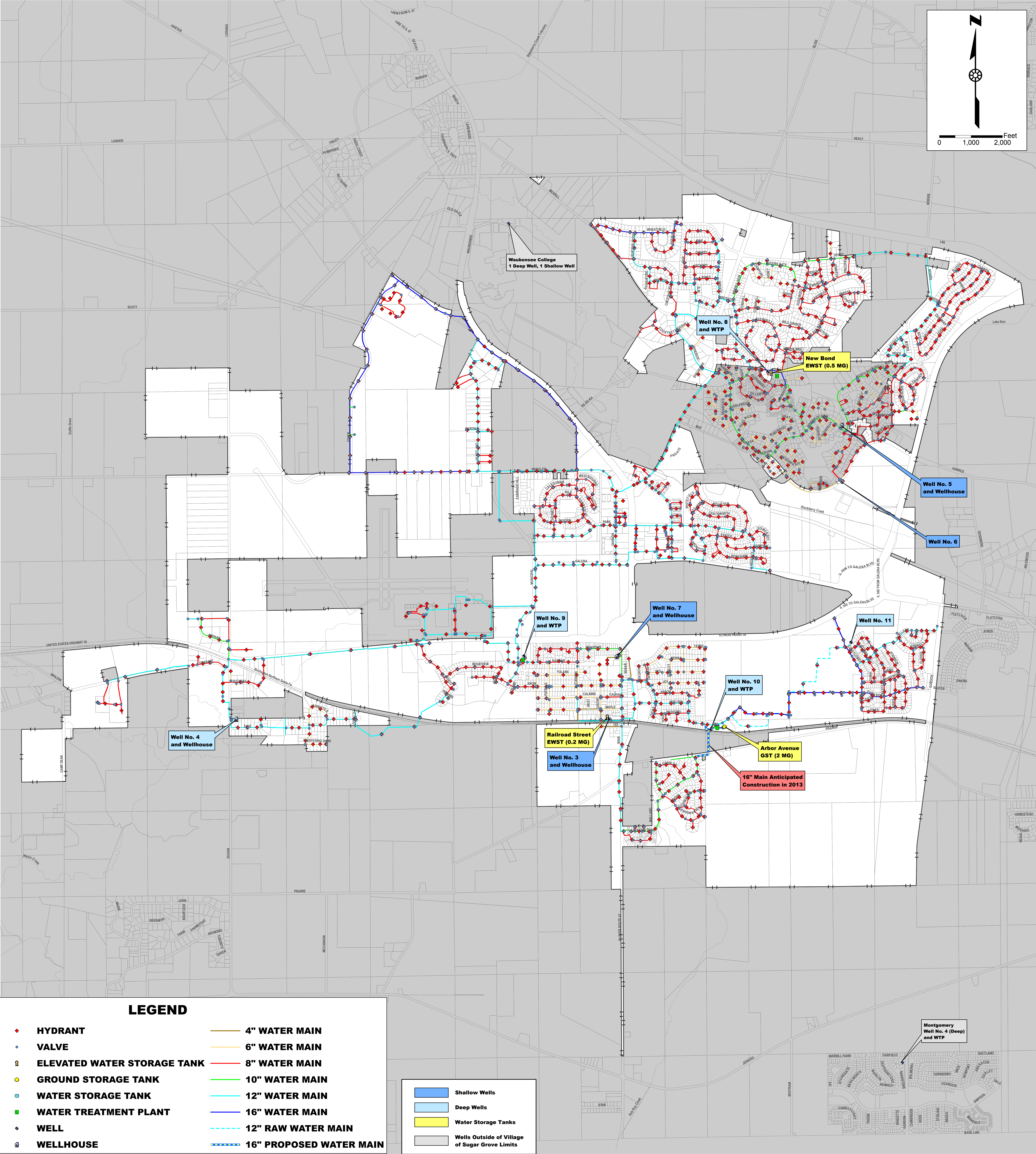
SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM
VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE
AND PRESTBURY

DATE: MAY 2009
PROJECT NO: SG0900
FILE NO: SG120027
SHEET 1 OF 1

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VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE

WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM



Engineering Enterprises, Inc.
52 Wheeler Road
Sugar Grove, Illinois 60554
(630) 466-6700
www.eeiweb.com

VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE
10 Municipal Drive
Sugar Grove, IL 60554

1	10/15/09	NEW DEVELOPMENT	DATE:	16 OCT 2009
2	08/21/11	WM UPDATES	PROJECT NO.:	SC0791
3	08/21/12	WM UPDATES	BY:	JPN
			DATE:	10/20/12
			FILE:	SC0791_01_BASE_OVERVIEW.MXD

WATER MAIN MAP
VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE
KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE
AND PRESTBURY



Sugar Grove, IL: Sandstone and Shallow Water Supply Summary

Daniel R. Hadley, Cecilia Cullen, and Daniel B. Abrams *Illinois State Water Survey*

3/11/2022

Risk to Sugar Grove's deep Sandstone Water Supply

The Village of Sugar Grove, like many communities in northeast Illinois, is evaluating their water supply source in anticipation of the growth, challenges, and climate of the twenty-first century. They have contracted the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) to use their established groundwater model¹ to evaluate local risk to the deep sandstone aquifer. **The updated scientific modeling indicates that Sugar Grove could be at risk of declining performance for wells reliant on the Ironton-Galesville aquifer.**

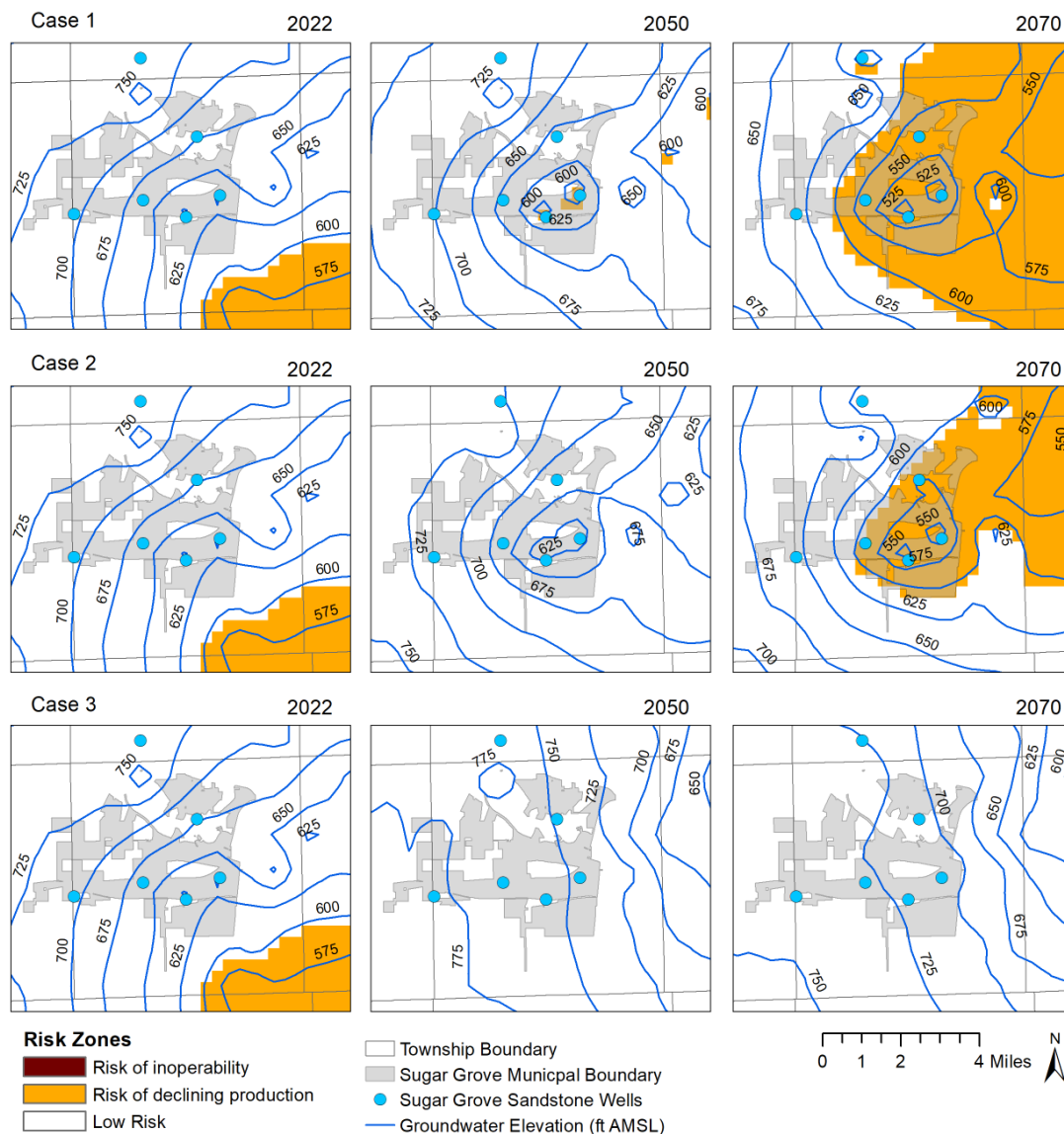


Figure 1. Risk associated with average conditions in the deep sandstone aquifer in the Sugar Grove area. The maps depict Case 1, 2, and 3 scenarios for the following years: 2022, 2050, and 2070.

Discussion of the Maps

The maps in Figure 1 show where sandstone water supply risk is currently present and where it will grow in the future for Case 1, 2, and 3 under average pumping conditions *. Because future water level simulations will vary with different amounts of water pumped, the ISWS evaluated a suite of model scenarios:

- Case 1 – Water demand in this scenario follows a current trend. Wells 10 and 11 are the pumping centers, accounting for 38% of Sugar Grove’s totals each. From 2020 to 2070 Wells 8 and 9 each pump 12% of Sugar Grove’s total, and Well 4, though included in the hydrographs and risk table, does not supply any water to the community. In 2050, Well 12 is added and absorbs 25% of community demands and the contribution of Wells 10 and 11 both drop to 25% of total demand. This adjusted allocation holds until the model terminates in 2070. In this scenario, Joliet, Oswego, Montgomery and Yorkville all switch off of the sandstone aquifer in 2030.
- Case 2– This scenario is the same as Case 1 except more communities, Channahon, Minooka, Rockdale, Shorewood and Romeoville, join in leaving the aquifer in 2030.
- Case 3 – In this scenario all communities in Case 2 leave the aquifer in 2030 and Sugar Grove also leaves the aquifer in 2035.

Wells located in the orange zone are at-risk of declining performance as water levels lower. In Cases 1 and 2, every Sugar Grove well reaches this category by the year 2070. Additionally for Cases 1 and 2, the two wells pumping the most, Well 10 and Well 11, reach the severe risk zone in peak pumping conditions. In this severe risk zone, wells are at risk of being unable to meet demands and becoming inoperable.

* All scenarios for the Sugar Grove models are based on data provided to ISWS modelers by Engineering Enterprises Inc.

Water levels at Sugar Grove 8 and Sugar Grove 11: Case 1

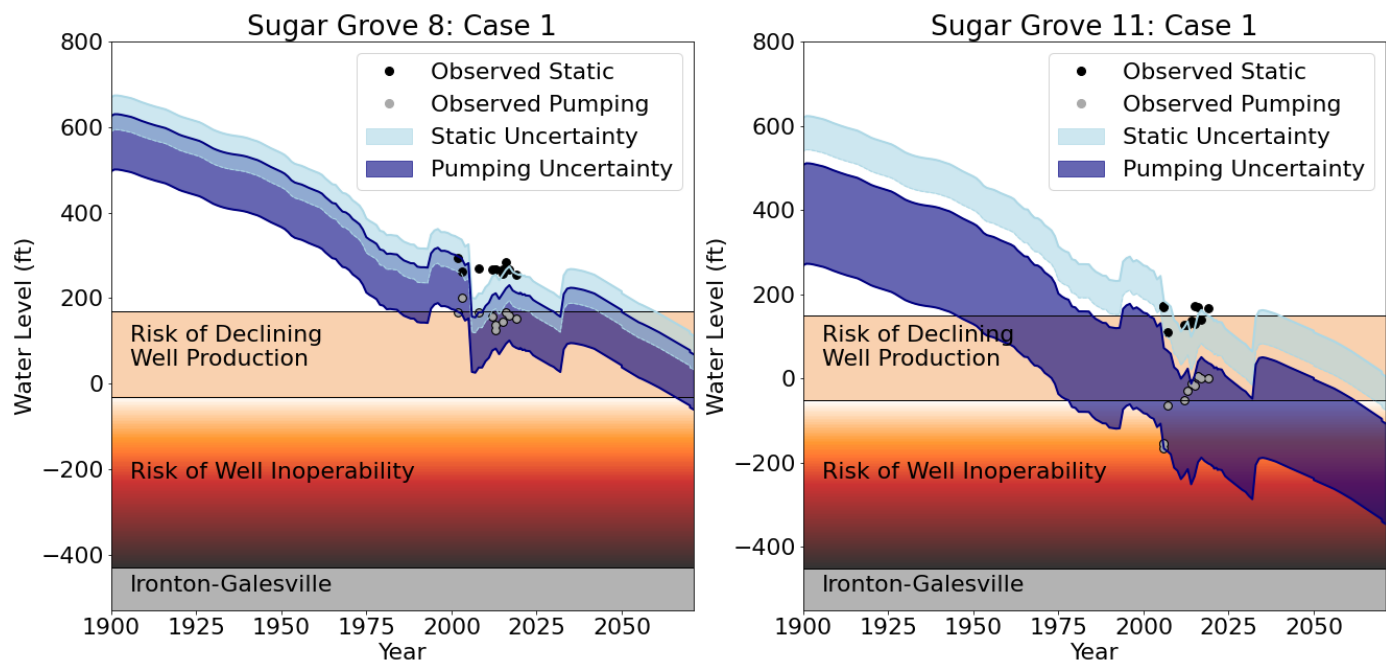


Figure 2. Hydrographs for Sugar Grove 8 (left) and Sugar Grove 11 (right). Under the Case 1 scenario, water levels in Sugar Grove will continue to decline and be at-risk of declining well productivity. The uncertainty of static and pumping water levels is highlighted in light blue and navy, respectively.

Hydrographs are used to plot the water level of a well through time and compare to risk thresholds, shown in Figure 2. Because uncertainty accompanies projecting static and pumping water levels, we represent the possible range of future water levels in the hydrographs with highlighted bands based on observed data. Risk to water levels is assessed based on feet above the top of the Ironton-Galesville unit, indicated by the grey block on the hydrographs. The light blue band represents the static, or non-pumping, water level in the well where the upper bound indicates the static level in a particular well when surrounding wells are operating under average conditions, and the lower bound represents static level in a well when surrounding wells are operating under peak pumping.

When the light blue band reaches the top of the orange risk zone, the well is at-risk of declining well performance. Water levels at Well 8 and Well 11, shown in Figure 2, are projected to reach this threshold under average pumping conditions. It is important to note all operational Sugar Grove wells, in this model simulation, exhibit risk of declining well productivity by 2070 (Table 1). Greater risk occurs when static water levels fall into the most severe risk zone. Under peak demands (the lower bound of the light blue band), water levels at Well 11 enter the well inoperability risk zone by 2068.

Pumping water levels, shown by the navy band, are not used to explicitly define risk but are included in the hydrographs for additional perspective. The upper bound of the navy band is determined by the minimum drawdown observed (and assumes no change in future specific capacity); this would be the equivalent of maintaining the current pumping distribution, frequently rehabilitating a well, and potentially even redrilling older wells to avoid loss in specific capacity. The lower bound is estimated as the worst case pumping level observed in the southwestern suburbs region. The deeper a pumping water level falls into the severe risk zone, the greater the risk of well inoperability.

Range of Risk in Future Simulations

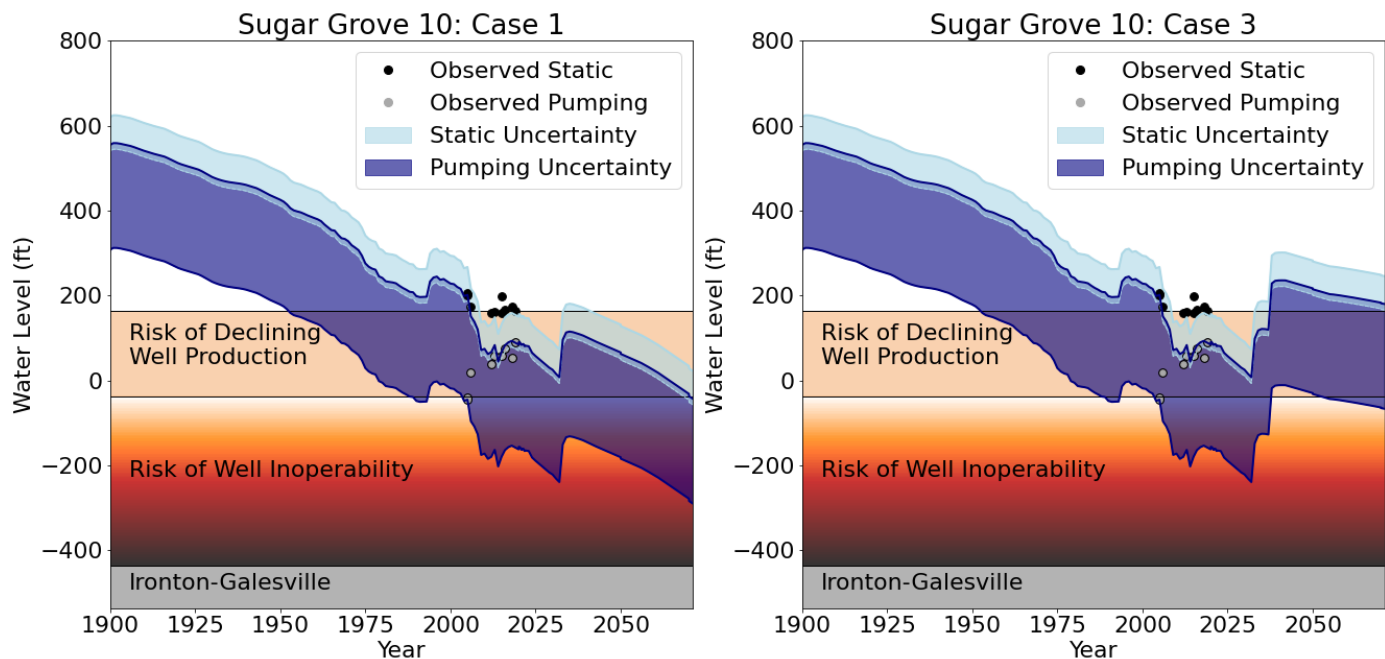


Figure 3. Hydrographs indicating the more severe (Case 1) and less severe (Case 3) simulations for Sugar Grove 10.

The highest future water levels for Well 10 are associated with the Case 3 simulation, while the lowest future water levels are from the Case 1 scenario, shown in Figure 3. This figure represents the simulated range of future water levels based on future pumping and how many communities leave the aquifer.

Risk Tables

Table 1. Risk table for the model simulations representing a) average conditions and b) peak conditions.

a)

	Case 1		Case 2		Case 3	
	<i>Risk of declining production</i>	<i>Risk of inoperability</i>	<i>Risk of declining production</i>	<i>Risk of inoperability</i>	<i>Risk of declining production</i>	<i>Risk of inoperability</i>
Well 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Well 8	2060	-	2064	-	-	-
Well 9	2030 / 2060 ^a	-	2030 / 2065	-	2030 / - ^b	-
Well 10	2009 / 2040	-	2009 / 2044	-	2009 / -	-
Well 11	2009 / 2040	-	2009 / 2043	-	2009 / -	-
New Well 12	2066	-	2069	-	-	-

b)

	Case 1		Case 2		Case 3	
	<i>Risk of declining production</i>	<i>Risk of inoperability</i>	<i>Risk of declining production</i>	<i>Risk of inoperability</i>	<i>Risk of declining production</i>	<i>Risk of inoperability</i>
Well 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Well 8	2006	-	2006	-	2006 / -	-
Well 9	2008	-	2008	-	2008 / -	-
Well 10	2009	2069	2009	~2070~ ^c	2009 / 2070	-
Well 11	2006	2068	2006	~2070~	2006 / 2066	-
New Well 12	2050	-	2052	-	-	-

^a In Sugar Grove, water levels reach the risk zones and then recover in the after 2030 when Joliet and other communities leave the aquifer. We indicate when water levels enter the risk zone both before and after this major change in water use.

^b For this well, water levels reach the “Risk of declining well production” zone and the recover post 2030 and do not return to the risk zone prior to 2070.

^c Indicates that water levels are close to the “Risk of well inoperability” zone and would likely enter that zone in the years following 2070.

Long-term planning should account for risk to all wells. Thus, the risk table (Table 1) represents when wells become at-risk in each of the model scenarios. As pumping increases, the length of time that Sugar Grove can safely withdraw water from the sandstone shortens. Additionally, as one or more wells become at-risk, communities will need to consider the possibility of wells failing to meet supply.

Sugar Grove has four current wells and one expected well over which pumping can be distributed. It is possible that a couple of wells can become less operable and the village could experience declining well production. As a result, a few questions should be asked when considering this risk table:

- Can the local water system withstand a well that temporarily cannot meet demands during peak pumping conditions?
- What wells can absorb the additional pumping of a failed well?
- How will redistributed pumping from failed wells exacerbate risk at operating wells?

Technical Discussion of Maps, Hydrographs, and Tables

Take-Home: As sandstone water levels decline, uncertainty is magnified. The small sample of wells in Northeastern Illinois with static water levels approaching the “Risk of Well Inoperability” zone have struggled to provide adequate supply.

The maps (Figure 1) and hydrographs (Figures 2 and 3) depict simulated water level conditions through time under the three scenarios. The light blue band in Figures 2 and 3 represents the range of **static** levels—the water level in a well when the pump is off. When the pump is turned on, water levels generally fall an additional 200 to 400 ft for most high capacity wells in this region (**pumping** level) —represented by the navy band. The offset between the static and pumping levels in the hydrographs was based on observed measurements of Sugar Grove water levels sent in by the community. The model was adjusted until the simulated values matched observed static water levels (via a process known as calibration).

Another uncertainty in the model is the distribution of future pumping, complicated by the addition of possible not-yet-drilled community wells. Moving or shifting pumping would redistribute risk. While this would likely extend the life of the aquifer at one well, it could cost years of the estimated time left for another. We also removed multi-aquifer wells in Kane County based on historic trends extrapolated to the future, resulting in an additional loss of water to the deep Ironton-Galesville. These well removals usually only affect water levels at nearby neighboring wells.

As both static and pumping levels approach the top of the Ironton-Galesville aquifer, a few issues have been observed. A predominant concern is that wells with low static levels tend to also have the most extreme drawdown under pumping conditions. It is important to note that other issues can occur as water levels decline, including: 1) limits on pump settings (specifically, whether a pump can even be lowered into the Ironton-Galesville aquifer), 2) costs associated with lifting water over a greater distance, 3) the need to rehabilitate wells more frequently and aggressively, 4) the increased risk of pumping sand, 5) potential for caving the deeper sandstone formation, and 6) reduced production capacity of the well.

What do these results mean for Sugar Grove’s water supply?

Q1: Will Sugar Grove’s withdrawals ever be sustainable?

A: No. Withdrawals from the sandstone aquifer in the northeast Illinois have been unsustainable for over a century. Over the decades, the aquifer has slowly depleted and now many supply wells are threatened. If withdrawals continue to exceed sustainable supply, irreparable declines in water levels will occur, impacting the already limited timeline of availability for this water source.

Q2: How long can Sugar Grove meet needed supply from the sandstone?

A: **Planning based on a time-horizon of available water from an aquifer is challenging due to the sensitivity of projected water levels to minor changes in future demands.** Risk increases as demands increase, but for all scenarios simulated here, most Sugar Grove wells have water levels dropping into the zone of declining well production. These results indicate that Sugar Grove will most likely have adequate groundwater supplies from the Ironton-Galesville aquifer out to 2050, but this supply is at increasing risk by 2070 and beyond. The Village of Sugar Grove should continue to closely monitor their sandstone water supply.

Take Home:

**Sugar Groves's sandstone withdrawals are inherently not sustainable.
Future water level declines pose a risk to Sugar Grove's sandstone
water supply source.**

Bottom Line: Uncharted Territory

Sandstone water levels in the northeastern Illinois have never been as low as they are now. How further declines will manifest is difficult to say for certain, but the ISWS has observed water level declines that are greater than what is modeled. In other words, as water levels decline, previously unforeseen complexities emerge that are disadvantageous to well productivity and shorten the lifespan of a well. These emerging complexities, such as declines in specific capacities or constraints on pump settings, are the real danger as water levels decline into “uncharted territory”. As a result, it is critical not to immediately dismiss the model results as overly conservative. **It is imperative that monitoring and modeling continue as water levels decline into this uncharted territory over the next decade to improve our understanding of the uncertainty associated with these depths.**

Shallow Aquifer Summary: Bedrock Valleys

There are two buried bedrock valleys within Sugar Grove township, the St. Charles and Aurora Bedrock Valleys (Figure 4). These two valleys were carved into the bedrock surface prior to glacial episodes and have since been filled in during glacial advances with up deposits of sand, gravel, silt, and clay up to 200 feet thick. Generally, these bedrock valleys are productive aquifers, but they can also be vulnerable to contamination from road salt and fertilizer applications because they are shallow and receive recharge from the land surface. Collectively, these two bedrock valley aquifers are referred to as the shallow sand and gravel aquifer. The extent and depth of the bedrock valleys are approximated from available well log information. As new observation wells and water wells are drilled, the exact location and depth of the bedrock valleys becomes more defined. Sugar Grove 2 and 7 are drilled into the Aurora Bedrock Valley, as is Aurora 101. At Sugar Grove 7, the well log indicates a 20-foot clay layer overlying 100 feet of higher permeable sand and gravel with minor layers of silt. The relatively thin layer of clay would offer some protection against contaminants locally, but the clay layer may not be spatially continuous or thick enough to prevent all contamination.

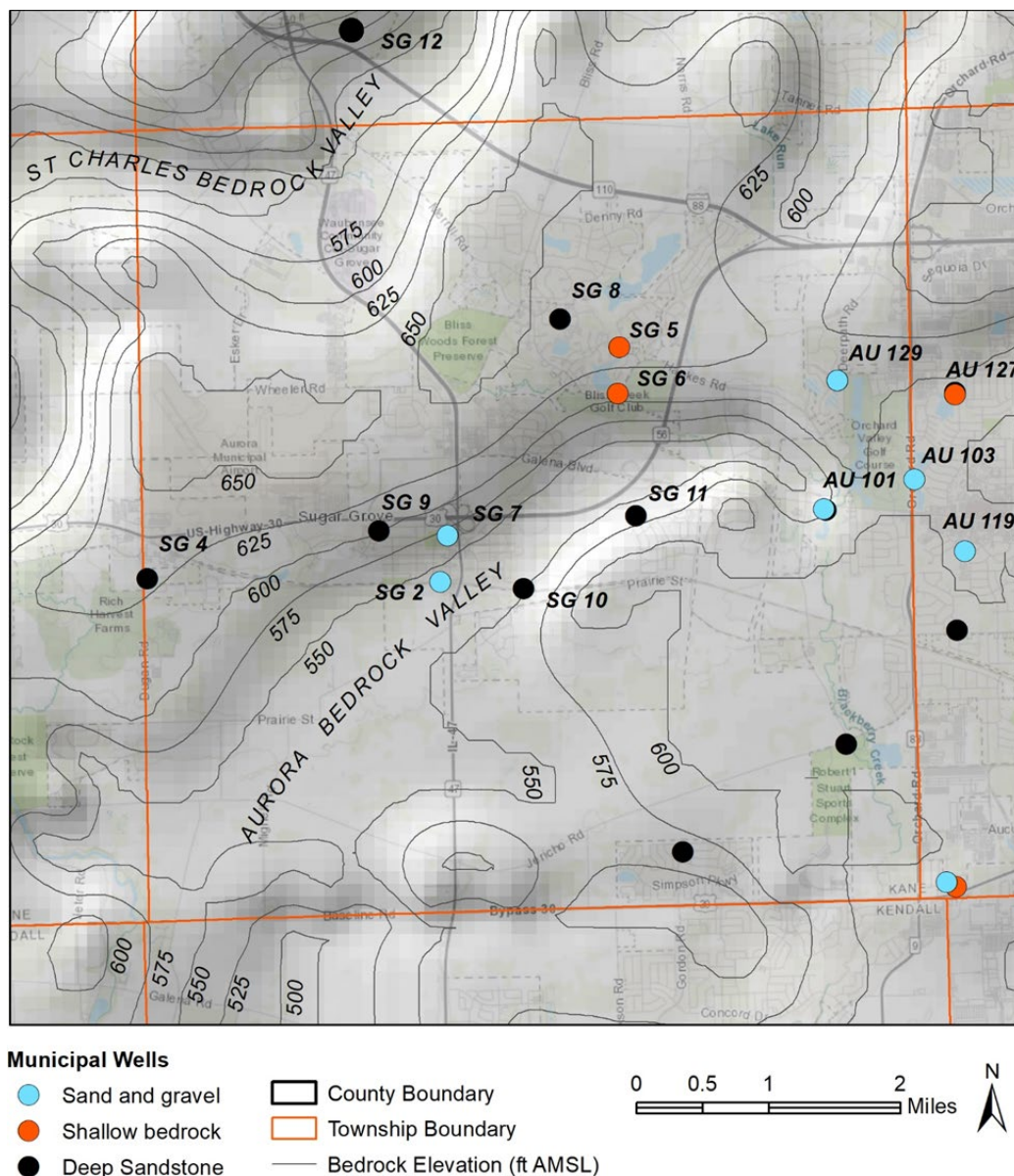


Figure 4. Bedrock valleys near Sugar Grove, with Sugar Grove (SG) and Aurora (AU) wells indicated. The contour lines represent the elevation of the bedrock surface, not land surface elevation.

Shallow Water Quality Summary: Chloride

Based on the data available (Figure 5), chloride appears to have increased in portions of the sand and gravel and shallow bedrock aquifers from 1990 to 2020. In Sugar Grove 5, this increase is over 100 mg/L. In Sugar Grove 7, chloride was already over 100 mg/L in the 1990s and appears to still be increasing. At a private shallow bedrock well located about one mile to the northwest of Sugar Grove 7, there was an increase in chloride concentration from 131 mg/L to 185 mg/L over a 6-year period. The ISWS classifies shallow aquifer wells with chloride concentrations exceeding 100 mg/L as “High Risk” because this indicates the existence of a pathway for chloride originating from winter deicers to enter the aquifer. The EPA sets a secondary standard for chloride at 250 mg/L, since groundwater above this concentration begins to taste salty. The changes in land use, particularly the increase in paved surfaces, near the Sugar Grove shallow wells (Figure 6 and 7) combined with chloride’s tendency to accumulate and remain in aquifers, can help explain the rise in chloride observed at Wells 5 and 7.

At Sugar Grove 5, the type of land use in the immediate vicinity of the well has not changed significantly from 1993 to 2021 (Figure 6); however, a number of regional subdivisions have been added due north, to the northeast, east, and southwest of this well. These additional subdivisions likely have required increase in winter deicer applications. Although a well log could not be located for Sugar Grove 5, a nearby well log indicates that the uppermost clay layer is approximately 15-20 feet.

A similar change in land use has occurred around Sugar Grove 7. A number of regional subdivisions have been added due north, to the west, and to the southeast of this well (Figure 7). An additional airport runway also was added to the northwest. The well log for Sugar Grove 7 indicates that the uppermost clay layer is approximately 15-20 feet.

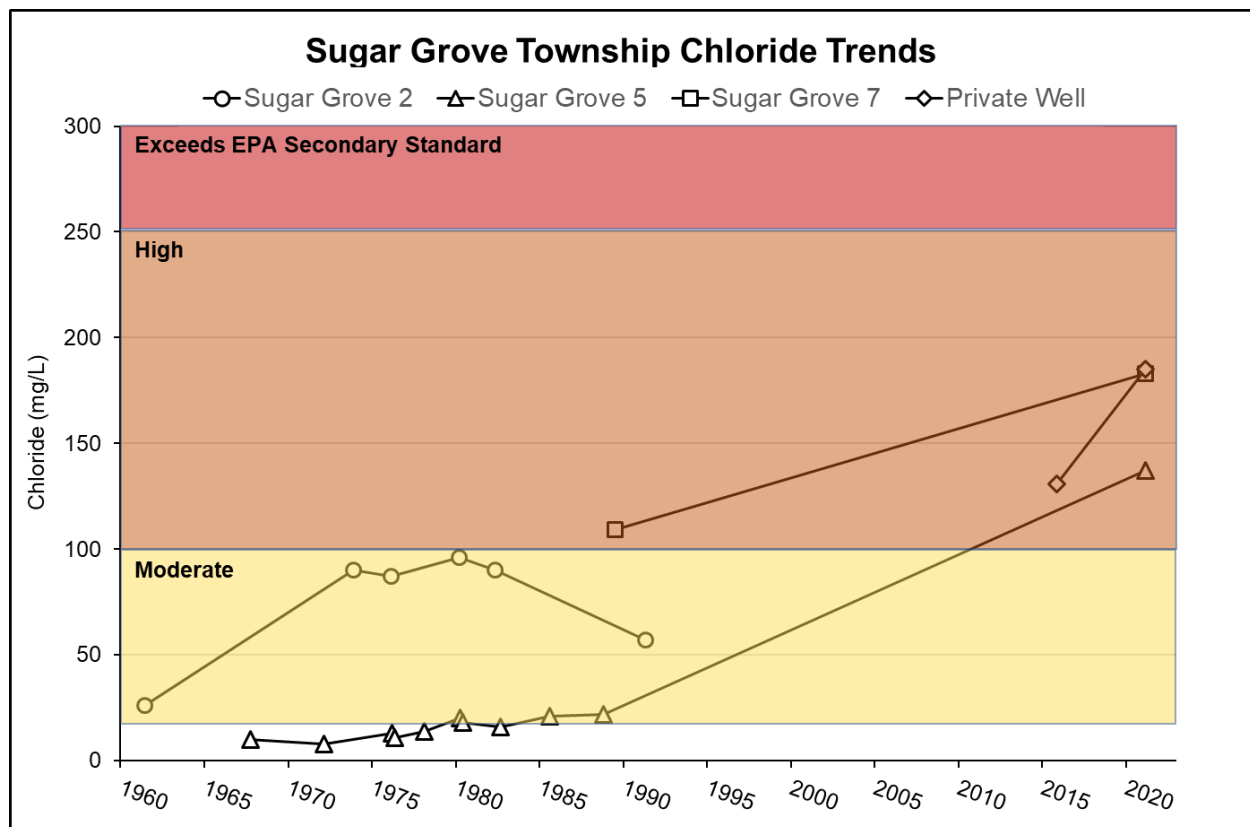


Figure 5. Chloride trends at Sugar Grove wells, 1960 – 2021

Frequent monitoring of chloride is highly recommended to understand where and how chloride is increasing. Recent work by the ISWS has indicated the potential for high variability in chloride shallow bedrock wells, such as Sugar Grove 5; however, not every well exhibits this same variability and depends on local land use factors. Tracking chloride through time will also be valuable in determining whether the adoption of alternative deicers by the Village of Sugar Grove are effective in reducing the amount of chloride entering the aquifers.

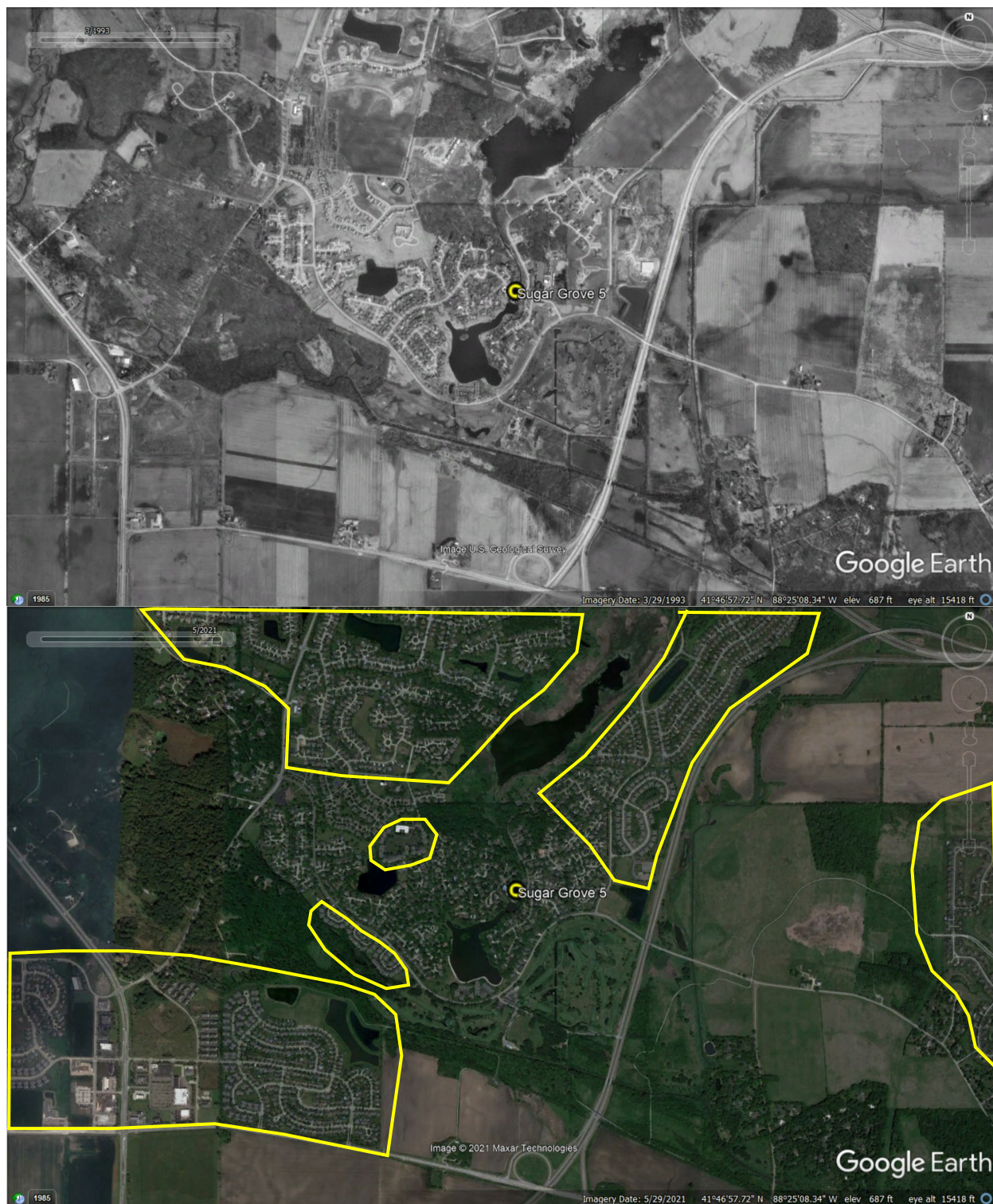


Figure 6. Aerial photography showing an increase in subdivisions and associated retention ponds in the area surrounding Sugar Grove 5 from 1993 (top) to 2021 (bottom). Note that the immediate area surrounding Sugar Grove 5 did not change substantially over this period.

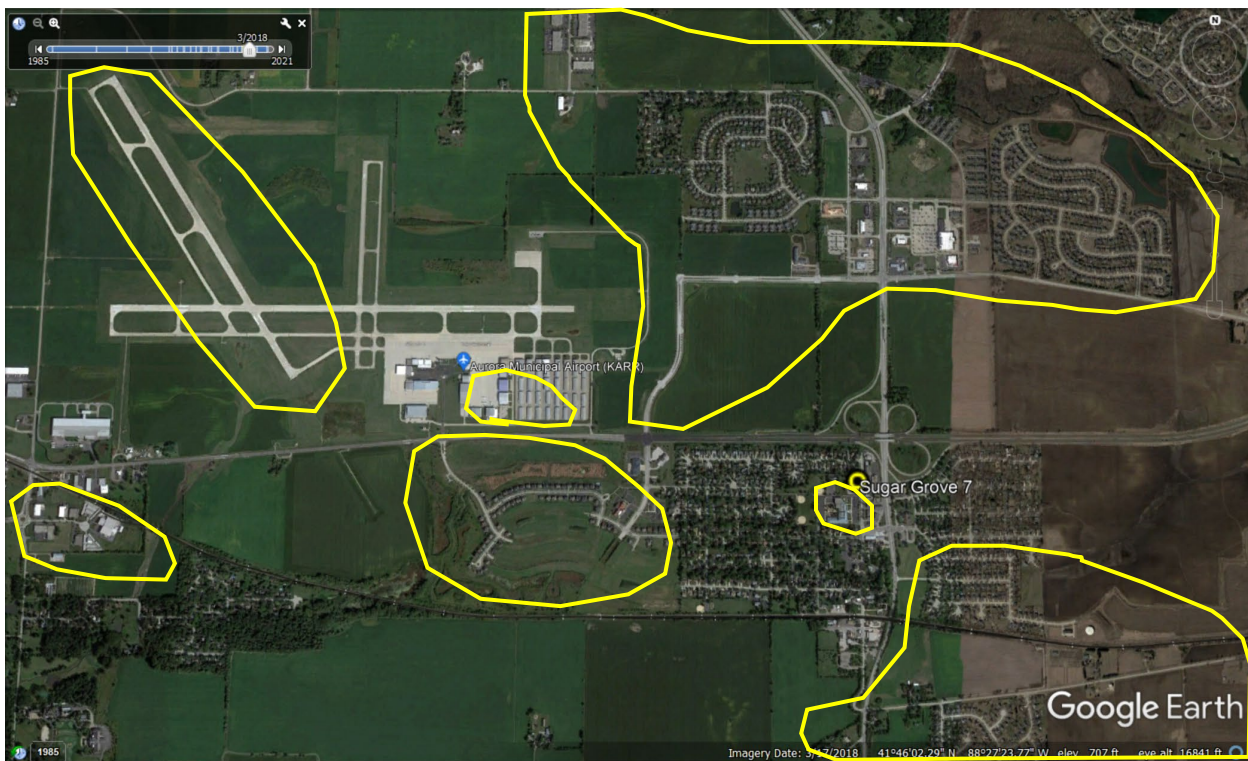


Figure 7. Aerial photography showing an increase in subdivisions and associated retention ponds in the area surrounding Sugar Grove 7 from 1993 (top) to 2021 (bottom). Note that the immediate area surrounding Sugar Grove 7 did not change substantially over this period.

References

¹Abrams, Daniel B.; Cullen, Cecilia. 2020. Analysis of Risk to Sandstone Water Supply in the Southwest Suburbs of Chicago. Available at <https://www.ideals.illinois.edu/handle/2142/109174>

²Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. 2018. 2050 Forecast of Population, Households, and Employment. Available at: <https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/data/demographics/population-forecast>

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