



WELCOME

City of Batavia

OPEN HOUSE

Comprehensive Plan Update

April 20, 2016
11:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Your City. Your Ideas.



OPEN HOUSE FORMAT

- Welcome! Today's Open House is very relaxed and informal. Please feel free to mill around, going back and forth among displays of information and materials, familiarizing yourself with the various facets of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Use the pens, markers and Post-It Notes provided to comment on questions, share ideas, and mark-up maps.
- If you would like to provide more extensive input, fill out a comment sheet found throughout the room.
- If you would like to have a discussion about a particular topic, concern, or idea, please come to one of the Open House Facilitators. We will be circulating throughout the room.



Collaboration in a Shared Future

Be Present. **Be Heard.**



WHO, WHAT, and WHY



What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan is both a vision for the future and a blueprint-for-change, especially as it relates to the physical growth of the community's buildings, streets, and infrastructure. Once adopted, the Comprehensive Plan will become a fundamental part of local policy and a foundation for zoning. It will serve as both an inspiration for a broad range of municipal actions and a standard by which they can be measured. The Comprehensive Plan being developed by the City of Batavia will allow for project coordination and the potential for sharing resources among several organizations throughout the community.

A comprehensive plan:

- Guides decision-making about development/conservation
- Provides a framework for capital improvements
- Provides residents with a basis for accountability of decisions
- Enhances the City's competitiveness in grant applications
- Can facilitate the environmental review process for projects

Who's facilitating the development of the plan?

The City Council has established a Steering Committee that is working with a team of planning, design, engineering and economic repositioning specialists led by Elan Planning & Design.

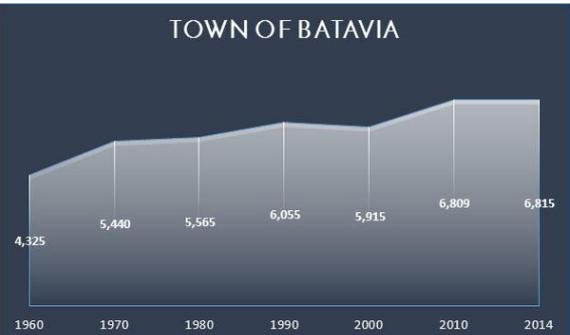
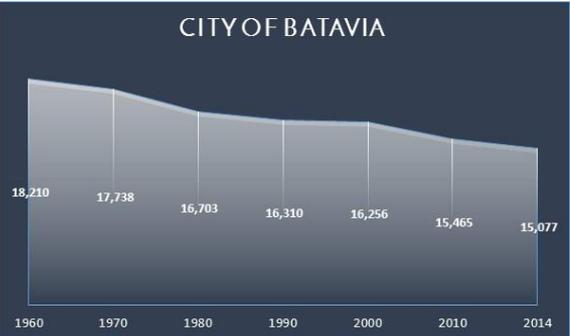
Steering Committee Members

Laurie Oltramari – Chair
Bob Knipe
Duane Preston
Ed Flynn
Marc Staley
Rachael Tabelski
Matt Grey

Your input is a vital component in the process. Your continued support moving forward with the plan will be just as important. Please, stay involved to help make the Batavia Comprehensive Plan an important catalyst for our future.

Background: SOCIO-ECONOMIC

POPULATION



The City of Batavia has been experiencing a steady population loss since 1960, while the town has grown. What can we do to bring residents back into the City?

HOUSING

	2000	2010	2000-2010 Change	
			Absolute	Percentage
Total	6924	7219	295	4.3%
Occupied	6457	6644	187	2.9%
Vacant	467	575	108	23.1%
Occupied				
Owner	3580	3475	-105	-2.9%
Renter	2877	3169	292	10.1%

Between 2000 and 2010, the City has experienced a net increase of renter housing, while the ownership rate has decreased.

The data also indicates a significant increase in vacant housing in the City between 2000-2010.

While the renter occupancy could be explained in part by Millennials preferring renting over ownership, it does not explain the more alarming trend of increased housing vacancies. What can we do to improve occupancy and ownership in the City?

Provide more "middle income" housing for Millennials?

Studies suggest that Millennials are highly community-oriented, have a strong connection to family relationships, are moving into urban areas, and are less likely to be young homeowners. These tendencies indicate a key strategy that Batavia could use to attract previous Millennial residents back into the community with continued investment in the downtown core, especially with "middle income" housing options.

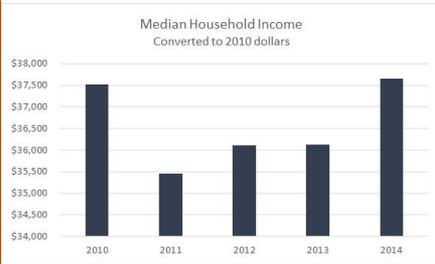


EDUCATION

	Genesee		
	New York	County	Batavia
Less than high school diploma	14.8%	9.6%	11.5%
High school graduate	27.1%	36.9%	35.2%
Some college	16.4%	19.4%	21.8%
Associate's degree	8.4%	13.3%	12.0%
Bachelor's degree	18.9%	12.6%	12.1%
Graduate or professional degree	14.3%	8.1%	7.5%

Educational attainment level is important indicator of income levels. The data suggests the residents of Batavia are consistent with County trends. However, the bachelor's degree and higher population is lower than the State. Should we be considering strategies to attract a higher educational attainment population?

INCOME

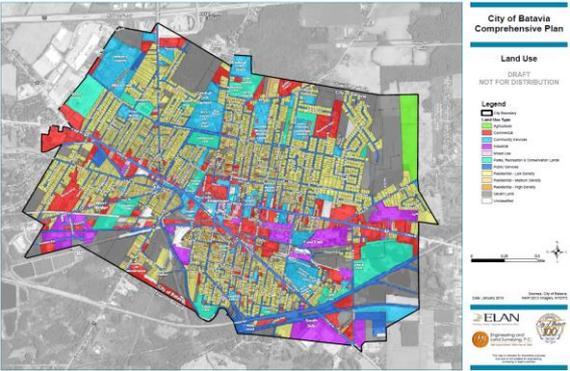


While income levels took a nosedive in 2011, trends are showing a steady increase. Still, the County's 2014 Median Household Income of \$50,573 is about 25% greater than the City's.

Background: PHYSICAL

LAND USE

- The City of Batavia covers 3,361 acres, or 5.3 square miles.
- The highest land use coverage is residential at about 31% .
- Vacant lands make up about 16.5% of the city's total land coverage. The image below shows most of these lands at the edges of the city.
- 12.6% of the land is publically owned (local, state, county, federal).



HISTORIC RESOURCES

There are two National Register Historic Districts in the City:

- Batavia Veteran's Administration Hospital Historic District
- Genesee County Courthouse Historic District

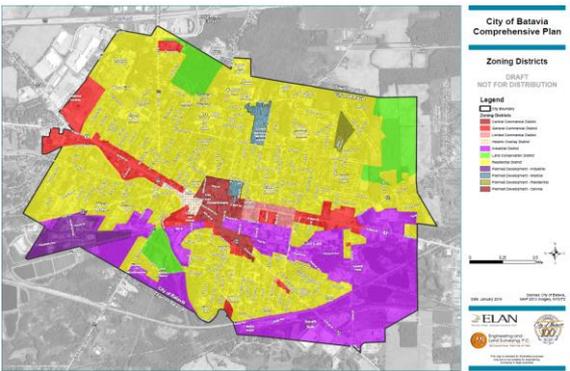
And several other historically important buildings:

- Holland Land Office
- Batavia Club
- Richmond Memorial Library
- First Presbyterian Church of Batavia
- St. James Episcopal Church
- Batavia Cemetery
- Adam's Insurance Agency
- Batavia Times
- Pringle House
- Engine Roundhouse
- First Baptist Church
- Engine House
- St. James Rectory
- St. Mary's
- Present Tense Book Store
- Brisbane Mansion
- Platt Residence
- Farrall Park

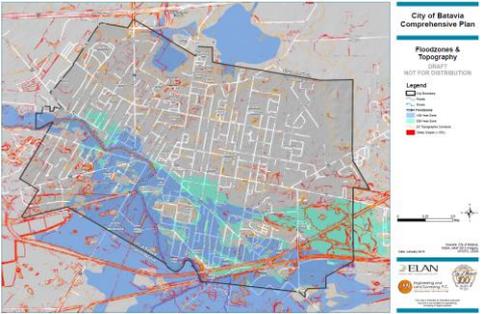


ZONING

- At 58.6%, the residential zoning districts make up most of the city's zoning.
- The Central Commercial District (which generally represents Downtown) makes up about 75 acres.



ENVIRONMENTAL



- Much of the southern portion of the City is covered by floodplains (shown in blue above).

TRANSPORTATION & COMMUTING



- Batavia is a regional employment center with about 7,004 employees coming into the City daily.
- About 4,500 residents commute to jobs outside the City.
- Both Buffalo and Rochester are important employment centers for regional residents.
- There are about 68 miles of roads in the city, 12 miles of rail, and 10 bridges.

Station 1: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Any thoughts or observations on the background material shared?

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STATION 1: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Any thoughts or observations on the background material shared?

- Would like to see more programs for first time homebuyers. Habitat for humanity is great.
- Community perception needs to change to a positive. Give Batavians a reason to be proud of their city.
- Focus on what makes us unique. Establish and identify.
- Jobs will increase population and socio economic rates.
- Focus on what was saved from urban renewal rather than just what was lost.
- Batavia in the future needs more parking.
- Property taxes are too high! Determine home ownership.
- List committee member's affiliations. Know the members.
- Physical too small graphics.
- Offer safe nice affordable rental housing owner accountable.
- Vacant Land? Negative connotation forested/and has immense value.
- Batavia is a right sized city not too big not too small. Change can be affectively made with cooperation.
- Invest in our history! Help people who want to revitalize old historic structures with tax incentives/pro-rate tax numbers. Keep the Holland land office.
- Would like to see more business downtown.
- Planning is the key.
- Walkability, aesthetics, retail and v entertain, more people will want to live in city and stop moving out into suburban spaces.
- And there's a lot of opportunity for these things.
- There are too many dead end streets and few ways to get around the community without using Rt. 5.
- Decrease in home ownership and increase in renters is fine except landlords are not taking care of their properties.

Station 2: STRENGTHS & OPPORTUNITIES

What are some of the strengths and opportunities of the City that we should take into consideration when developing the Comprehensive Plan?

Another perspective: if you met someone while traveling and told them Batavia was a place they should visit, what would you say?



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STATION 2: STRENGTHS & OPPORTUNITIES

What are some of the strengths and opportunities of the City that we should take into consideration when developing the Comprehensive Plan?

Another perspective: if you met someone while traveling and told them Batavia was a place they should visit, what would you say?

- Better communication from the City
- Downtown so much good space to develop. Commercial mixed use.
- County economic growth!
- Go see peace garden and walk along to Tonawanda creek. Visit Holland Land museum
- Low property rates – housing is still relatively cheap compared nationally.
- Be sure to plan with a landscape level view considering adjacent municipalities' trends and supporting resources.
- Accessibility including public transportation.
- Parks, neighborhoods, history, downtown housing
- Great place to live school system is great, many churches to worship
- People want downtown to be active and more business friendly.
- Housing affordability is good.
- “Can you put it on a postcard?” If you wouldn't, is it a good place?
- Strength: great location lots of traffic flow people need a reason to and enjoy instead of passing through.
- Take vacant city property and turn into i.e. public market charge vendors 50 or 100 even 5,000 a year is better than 0.
- Downtown living! Not much now.
- Central location, strong local biz, local restaurants, farms, strong local arts, schools.
- A lot of people really care and work together. But our infrastructure stinks.
- Bring college classes downtown.
- Historic preservation! Form a National register district. The Tonawanda Creek – utilize this more for recreation and development.
- Regional collaboration.
- Everyone knows everyone, small community charm.
- Use of college facilities for youth sport programs.

Station 3: WEAKNESSES & THREATS

What are some of the weaknesses and threats that are creating barriers for growth?



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STATION 3: WEAKNESSES & THREATS

What are some of the weaknesses and threats that are creating barriers growth?

- Drugs and thugs
- Tax paying residents negative to change!
- Too many “groups” with no enough collaboration energy. i.e. bid, vibrant downtown economic group etc.
- Sad mall
- Flood-prone properties
- Too much parking downtown. Great locally owned business.
- Garbage on the street every day of the week!
- Negative attitudes need community business other landlord and speak with one stronger voice.
- Lack of leadership
- Too much negative thinking
- Urban renewal gutted downtown, too much asphalt around downtown
- Drug trafficking
- Eliminate overnight parking tickets in summer.
- Depressing downtown – need more shops. Too many vacant store fronts.
- Weaknesses entitlement old school mentality. Wisdom is wonderful if it’s not used as an obstacle or barrier to development.
- Need more art and cultural events sense of pride in the city!
- Lack of arts need performance art theater preferably downtown
- Drug related crime
- Many vacant store fronts! Store front rent is high and deters new business. Drug related crime. Hard to cross Bank at Y.
- Drugs, resident are poor reflection of the city and its leaders. “Box stores” that make Batavia look generic.
- Truck traffic downtown.
- We need our own venture capital firm based here, more startups in tech.
- Too much focus on jobs and not productivity. Create the place people want to be and jobs will come.
- Many areas are unattractive.
- Traffic patterns and lack of walkways to walk
- Not a lot of high quality places to eat.
- Mall get the issue fixed.
- Move away from tax subsidies to stimulate business.
- Council members need “city focus” not just their ward.
- Lack of collaboration between municipal entities. “Bad blood”
- Big business tax breaks should be eliminated! Hurts local business. (They just close up and leave when the break ends)
- Public perceptions facts vs. hear-say
- Roads, potholes are really bad.
- Need more cooperation with other communities.
- Inefficiency – city does not use technology well to streamline processes. Many things could be automated. City website is often outdated and difficult to navigate.

Station 4: SET A VISION

Give us 3-5 words to help us develop a Vision Statement for the Batavia Comprehensive Plan.



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STATION 4: SET A VISION

Give us 3-5 words to help us develop a Vision Statement for the Batavia Comprehensive Plan.

- Growing business friendly protective medical services provides police fire and DPW
- Today Batavia, future Batavia, a place to live and grown
- More bike racks and bike lanes better maintained sidewalks
- Walkable, bikeable downtown!
- Play explore learn
- Pride
- Identity (what is Batavia know for)
- Downtown (young people like urban density)
- Aesthetic (step cutting down trees)
- Safe family friendly affordable
- Inclusive active affordable
- Centrally focused and young business friendly
- Family friendly lifestyle
- Make Batavia a destination there is a lot to see
- Family
- Children fostered to stay and play
- Dog Park
- Invest stay play grow
- Safe quaint small town feel
- Sustainable welcoming vibrant engaged
- Family, more shopping, events
- Fun, quaint, creative



Station 4: IDEA CENTER

The next few stations are organized by topic areas and ask you some questions to stimulate your thinking. You can answer these questions specifically, or in the additional space provided, you can add further thoughts.

Maps have also been provided for you to share ideas, thoughts, and concerns. Please feel free to make notations on the maps provided.

The Idea Center Stations are organized by the following topics:

- Housing & Neighborhoods
- Recreation & Environment
- Business & Economic Development
- Sustainability
- Place & Spaces

At the end of these stations, you will also have an opportunity for some of your own creative, open thinking to cover any topics not addressed in the previous stations.



Housing & Neighborhoods

What do you feel are the advantages and challenges of living in Batavia compared to other surrounding communities?



HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS

What do you feel are the advantages and challenges of living in Batavia compared to other surrounding communities?

- Bring parking meters on Main Street
- We need more handicap accessible buildings and restaurants, bus stops and shelters, too.
- Every time you reconstruct roads put in curbs and bury electric lines.
- Existing housing stock needs to be updated for both millennial and baby boomers' needs
- More housing options diversity.
- Challenges: No Wegmans. Location convenience.
- Small town
- Closeness. Relationships.
- Close to everything!
- Bring back parking meters for street parking. People park illegally all the time.
- Challenge low income families need stronger community involvement team spirit block by block
- Not enough accessible park and recreation areas
- Need good wages to allow people to work locally. Good school district to draw in families. Pride in home ownership is a lost pastime people are busy
- No more telephone poles! Bury them elsewhere in country.
- Small minded, segregated, ignorance, culture, a need for diversity
- Identify and enhance neighborhood centers to promote community involvement/participation ownership/standard ship i.e. parks, streets commercial centers
- Negative attitude too many on lower socio-econ feel helpless and hopeless
- Define/identify neighborhoods through trees, sculptures/statues, public spaces, etc.
- You can't force someone to like their neighbor. Which is why some people don't like block parties.
- No more rental
- Landlord should be accountable
- Accessibility transportation sports facilities
- Challenge not all wards treated equal
- Middle range apartments to rent
- Better rules for landlords
- Batavia is a time warp – stuck in the old ways of thinking. Change is seen as non-progressive.
- Advantage:
- Affordable housing
- Great schools
- Location between 2 major cities
- Low crime
- Older homes are on lots that are too small, no yards no parking not attractive to family living.
- We need respect for diversity have a welcoming sense for others it's not always there
- Good walkability but sidewalks need updating
- Would love more downtown housing options
- Stop building low income housing
- Friendly neighbors
- Lots of history family ties people who care about each other
- More bike trails
- Make it safer for walkers and bikers
- Need more downtown urban living
- Take pride in historic homes. There are so many to admire, but they're falling apart.

Idea
Center

Recreation & Environment

Where are there opportunities to strengthen and showcase the recreation & environmental aspects of the City? Are there particular recreational amenities the City should develop?



RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT

- Fix sidewalks on south side
- Spray park for South side
- Bring in more regional tournaments complete bike trails
- Amphitheater
- Theater in the park
- We need more pet friendly parks
- Walking and biking trails
- Make downtown more “walkable” paths, lanes parks and rec opportunities need to be upgraded. A vibrant youth program.
- Safe routes school program
- Sport tournaments (now going to Rochester)
- Wayfinding signs to those areas
- Other than casino need more nighttime attractions for out of towners staying in local hotels
- What is the recreation in Batavia?
- Trails that connect parks and green space and connect to other town and county parks.
- We have a strong, vibrant, active, high-quality arts and culture community. They need to be better supported, coordinated and the community more aware.
- Walking and bike trails
- Beautiful but unused parks do we know the usage rates?
- Bike trails using creek for recreation (kayak?) outdoor ice rink. Where is the recreation?
- Southside spray park.
- Rely on B.I.D. for downtown events *lost opportunity
- Lots of great rec here. Need tournaments to bring people to town.
- Enhance existing parks and smaller neighborhood parks to increase property values and create neighborhood identity/participation.
- Water splash park awesome
- Create/enhance parks upgrade equipment
- Bike trail
- Develop plan for Centennial Park.
- More walker/biker friendly roads narrowing roads provide more on street parking for retail.
- Playground or recreational area between South Main and 33
- Bigger parks, more amenities, especially playgrounds
- Public market
- More downtown green space less semi traffic
- Arts and cultural events turn the mall into an indoor public market.
- Fix sidewalks better lighting. Emergency call poles like colleges have throughout city
- Skate park walking outdoor mall to bring in pedestrian traffic. Retail bike trail, bike friendly
- Develop more biking and creek based recreation/travel
- More art/cultural opportunities. Performing arts center.
- More youth and adult focused cultural amenities. Non-sports related.
- Water quality and aesthetics of Tonawanda creek is very important.
- No further sport development. Instead, focus on better maintenance of current facilities i.e. parks have broken dated signage, aren't raked in fall.
- Get rid of the “mall”
- Bike trails throughout the city
- Community events in the parks (Friday movie nights in Austin Park for example)
- Make parks more appealing and green space.

Idea
Center

Business & Economic Development

Are there specific products, services or businesses that you believe would be successful in Batavia? Are there certain industries we ought to consider attracting?



BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- LGBT center and activities
- Will bring diversity, culture, style, money
- Light manufacturing, artist community
- Develop good paying jobs, GCEDC city and county
- High end coffee café.
- Cooperate with town of Batavia good for both
- Success the growing dairy industry
- Attract more mom and pop downtown shops.
- Bring back classy department store in Carrs Building. Restaurants on Main.
- Encourage (niche) retail must be on first floor.
- DIY workshops or places to do self-improvement
- Tool-lending library
- Shared business offices. Trendy open air collaboration centers with support services.
- Local foods restaurants
- Music
- Food, trucks, music
- City's priority should be "How can I help xyz succeed"
- LORT (regional) Theater
- Free Wifi downtown
- Get something into the C.L. Carr building.
- Reliable consistent transportation system
- Tables and chair at restaurants on Main Street.
- Signs on buildings facing traffic main street
- Tables to eat outside of restaurants on Main Street
- Get more small shops in downtown "rents too high"

BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Provide incentives for big downtown property owners (store front) to rent at a reasonable rate to encourage small business growth.
- Incentives for locally owned businesses downtown New businesses = New Jobs = community feel
- Cultural arts center
- Small indoor recreation center like strong museum
- Mini golf and family activities
- Redevelop mall area, retail mixed use
- Mix of high-low end retail
- Mix of different events by these should always be something to do downtown
- More white collar jobs
- More niche retail makes it easier to open a business
- BDC GCC class, evening and weekend options, please
- “Street walls” by makes for more appealing atmosphere.
- Identify what Batavia is going to be known for and focus on building a branch
- Destination and location. Work with local businesses to create a unified downtown vision that focuses on growth and collaboration more art downtown.
- Public market space year-round.
- Allow one-night parking for restaurants.
- More shopping and events.
- Harvester is a great opportunity for redevelopment a bookstore hardware store on east side
- Wegmans
- If downtown is going to be eateries and boutiques, then go for it and market it. Don't shy away from that.

Sustainability

What are some of your thoughts regarding how sustainability can be integrated into Batavia? (i.e. energy efficiency, renewable energy, green space, innovative food policies, trail connectivity)



SUSTAINABILITY:

- Incorporate green infrastructure into street reconstruction
- Complete streets policy, sidewalk completion, fill in gaps, bike lanes
- Integrate our local food supply into the schools
- Downtown Batavia public market building green building support farmers
- Bury powerlines/wires to enable larger trees with shade canopies.
- Make it easier for residents to maintain their properties by picking up leaves and brush instead of doing to compost center. We don't have old pickup trucks!
- The options are endless. Identify top 10 priorities and use comp plan to creak the system (people and process) that will achieve them. Anything else is yet another list
- Replant trees prior to street improvement years before.
- Electric car charging downtown.
- Bury electric lines plant more trees
- Sidewalk, enhancement, hide powerlines, enhance main with bike trail
- Plant trees on entrance from Ellicott street to Main Street
- More trees in public parking lot will not only make them safer but would and green space. Fruit trees in parks where people can get free food.
- Never heard anyone discuss this topic. How about starting the conversation?
- Solar panels for city hall, etc. local schools, food supplied by local farmers.
- Use contractors and agencies that do good work so the buildings don't look old after a few years! e.g. this building to the white bleeding over the bricks.
- Bury utility. More bikes more walking more density eliminate parking.
- Bury utilities.
- Bike paths education on renewable energy
- Electric car charging station
- Local electric company lower electric rates
- Trees on main street or more greenery
- Dog parks
- Bury electric lines, free up sight lines for art and environment (plant trees)
- Bury powerlines
- Plant more trees
- Attractive buildings
- Get sidewalk alert buttons functional
- Improve local food culture
- More partnerships like the public famers market
- More bike racks and bike lanes
- Look at other small communities (Ithaca, Saratoga Springs) what are they doing that's working? How can we apply that to Batavia?
- The City should embark on a new energy efficiency project new water meters LED streetlights, solar, green roofs, etc.

Places & Spaces

Below, identify some ideas for how the Batavia Mall and surrounding areas can best be used. Use the map to highlight special areas for reinvestment, access, and protection.

Idea
Center

Post-It Notes Here

Post-It Notes Here



Places & Spaces: Batavia Mall



Feel free to make comments here

Feel free to make comments here

PLACES AND SPACES: Batavia Mall

- Take out the concourse roof and open to traffic with calming devices.
- The asphalt/concrete jungle is ludicrous. Redesign roads add green space.
- Building
- Someone's going to get seriously hurt at the crosswalk. Needs to be moved north. To eliminate separate entrance to mall lot and use bank drive through entrance.
- Yes, everyone crosses here.
- Frame in lot north of Alva place to create a town center feel. Eliminate parking and town into given space.
- If they build a new YMCA it should front on Main Street and fit in with a storefront like appearance.
- Invest in assisting in home improvements.
- Make walkable dedicated small businesses startup leases

Idea
Center

Places & Spaces

Downtown is the area's traditional center for social, cultural, and daily economic activity. Today, Downtown still serves an important function as a gateway for the community providing social and economic opportunity. Below, identify some ideas for **new public investments and new business that could enhance the vitality of Downtown**. Use the map to identify specific parcels for redevelopment and illustrate how Downtown can be "connected" for a complete Batavia experience.

Post-It Notes Here

Post-It Notes Here



Places & Spaces: Downtown

Please mark up the map to indicate



needs and opportunities in and around downtown.

Feel free to make comments here

Feel free to make comments here

PLACES & SPACES

- Less rules on development.
- Festivals/events on the streets
- YMCA/UMMC together make sense
- Downtown needs a public space (a plaza, fountain, etc.) to offer identity and value.
- Main Street and Ellicott Street needs traffic calming
- Downtown needs better connection with surrounding neighborhoods
- Focus on existing buildings as well as infilling parking lots to increase tax base.
- Fix the area around the Y / OFA to make it safer.
- More buildings more walking less parking.
- Coffee house
- Brewery
- Wellness and health center with YMCA
- Need a cultural center w/ low cost or free events: geared to family
- Expand marking at YM and combine with Jerome __ and exit at Summit Street
- Parking garage? Try to park between 12-2pm need more
- Medical corridor? Do we want potential downtown first floor retail space taken by medical? We have one shot at this.
- Quaint mom and pop shops.
- Linear buildings create a public renting for retail encourages sidewalk use by businesses.
- Liner buildings. (thumbs up)
- Ensure downtown is pedestrian friendly in winter by enforcing laws re: shoveling sidewalks. Roof of the mall lots of buckets.
- More diverse restaurants no more buildings like san-a-lot eyesore
- Bath and body works one of the only places I have to leave Genesee county to shop at
- Gay Pride parade LGBT center
- Bring all sports arena workout, clinic, therapy, natural store (all in one)
- Downtown hotel
- Fill in parking spots with small, attractive buildings

PLACES & SPACES: Downtown

Need assisted living for the elderly!

Wegmans!

Jackson Street is great

Ellicott Trail

Apartments

Outdoor amphitheater

Roman style

Fitness track and picnic/city garden area for youth development

Tourney's BIG

Mixed use retail

Classrooms for camps

Hotel attached or close by

Idea
Center

Places & Spaces

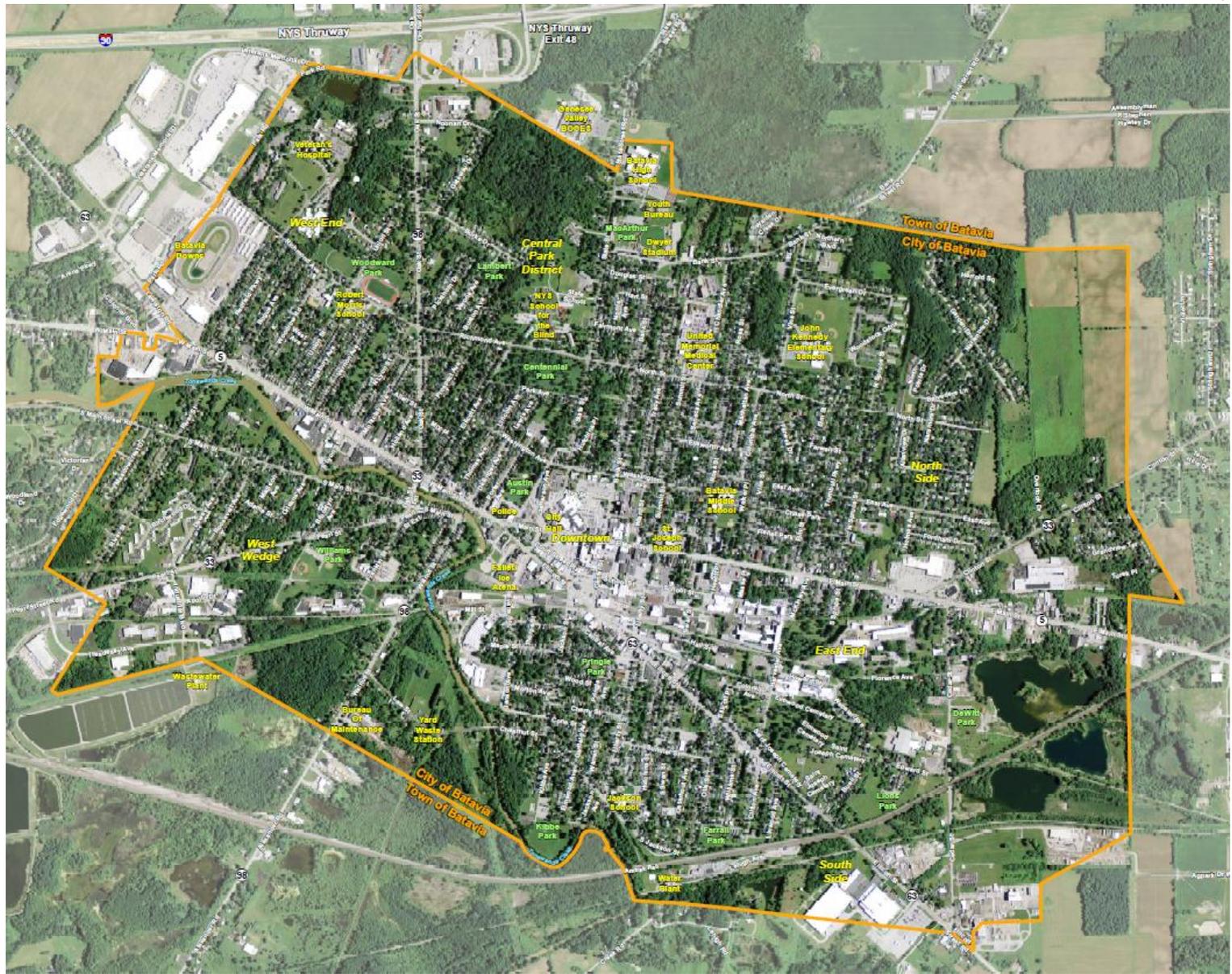
In the space below and on the map provided, tell us about and show us the special places within Batavia that we should enhance, restore or protect?

Post-It Notes Here

Post-It Notes Here

Places & Spaces: Special Places

Please indicate on the map



where the special places are located throughout the city.

Feel free to make comments here

PLACES AND SPACES

- Put public market on Main Street to bring shoppers downtown. Let Farmers Park in parking lot and set up food near clubs.
- Health food center
- Redevelop to line Main Street with retail on bottom
- Mall fix the roof asap!
- Redevelop retail only first floor along main
- The “Mall” concourse
- Healthcare center state of the art
- TNT (mall)
- Wellness center use the Y more
- Open air mixed use market/retail/public space.
- The “Mall” concourse has so much potential but people are grossed by it. Clean it up within a year going on too long.
- Redevelop retail only first floor along main.
- Public market green space or local shops without side storefront
- Mall – make center an outdoor space. Reside it is very unappealing as is. Gets a mixed use trend going. Make parking lot less of a maze.
- P.A.C. Arts/performance center.
- LGBT center and clinic, LGBT bar or LGBT friendly clinic.
- Harvest parking.
- Too much parking too little tax base
- Parking wayfinding
- Linear buildings on retail oriented streets
- Turn the wall into a residential center with high end town homes and retail.
- Mall is a tax \$ suck!
- Penny’s is for sale. Businesses are foreclosing just tear it all down.
- Autonomous cars owned by city for taxi services. Google Beverly Hills autonomous cars
- Indoor public market for the mall.
- Two story and sites for condos and mixed use retail.
- Get rid of it.
- Digital signs should be allowed.
- Turn the unused mall space into a convention center. There is nothing in Buffalo or Rochester in size. Airport is nearby casino and hotel.
- Rooftop dining open up mall concourse remove roof or create a walking street of shops. Improve outside of mall to match an individual store feel instead of a prison look.
- Put the theater on Main Street.
- Mall could be open air space.
- Two store buildings facing Main Street
- Build in the park spaces? Not enough parking now for employees or customers
- Too much parking need parking plan
- Mall – get rid of it.
- Digital signs should be allowed.
- More restaurants
- More roundabouts

Places and Spaces: Special Places

- Beautiful unprotected neighborhoods
- Keep Park Road open
- Centennial park plan
- Buy flood prone property instead of perpetuating flood damage
- Bury power lines fix sidewalks
- Utilize around the creek
- Tonawanda Creek needs to be recreational again. Think Batavia's version of canal side
- Plant trees to give streets and neighborhoods the canopy effect they used to have
- Need to embrace, expand the creek similarly to what other towns have done with the canal.
- Finish the plans for Dewitt Park and provide an ability to walk/bike there from downtown.
- Beautiful unprotected neighborhoods
- Check out the Green Genesee Road map part of the GGSG project and consider how the city's green space interested/connect to the County's green infrastructure network.
- Bury power lines
- Fix sidewalks
- Supporting Arts & Culture
- Music events in places other than Jackson Square featuring various styles of music
- Somehow upgrade space for Batavia theatre
- Less annoying laws that get in the way of operating a business in Batavia
- City support for Go Art!
- Batavia players are a community asset.
- Do not allow County to sell the Holland Land Office Museum.
- Theater/opera house for local traveling stage shows. Go art is important. Public art.
- Have more public art, sculpture, fountains, etc.
- Support Batavia city art project
- Street art shows by local unknown artists
- Muck Dogs/Dwyer stadium are underrated not embraced by the community we should really embrace the team as a city. We must support these athletes team before we lose them.
- Multi-story cultural arts center.
- We need one big community calendar for planning and attending. (on website)
- Keep summer in the city more festivals.
- Expand GCC Art Gallery to downtown
- More athletic tournaments
- Cultural center beyond "Go Art"
- Give Go Art some money we need them.
- City art canvas program
- Allow overnight parking near the "bar" areas to discourage drunk driving instead of ticketing responsible drivers.
- Artsy cities are destinations!
- We need a great common community calendar/website for items like this and entertainment.
- Better and updated city calendar. What is going on today?
- Bed tax
- Need it! sponsored specific events more outreach money
- More art outdoor performance outdoor skate rink outdoor stake park picnic tables and centennial park make it a "road race" ready town to host bike and running events.
- Work with Go Art for cultural events
- Support the arts organization that is already here!

Special places within Batavia that we should enhance restore or protect?

- Veteran's hospital and Redfield parkway
- Narrow residential roads that are oversized (i.e. North Street – East end)
- Dog Park
- Use empty lots to create public space such as Oak and Richmond, Vine and Bank, etc.
- Tree management Plan
- Clean city streets
- Protect the Pillars on Redfield parkway gateway to UPI
- Austin park enhance better programming and visibility
- Centennial park landscape it to what it was historically
- Spray park on South side
- Parks master plan enhance parks with trails/paths ponds other water festivities, gazebos etc.
- Use Jackson Square
- Please get the bunch that drinks in the Austin Park pavilion out for good-bye from children.
- Parking at YMCA lot improvements needed.
- Improve access from existing lot to YMCA
- Consider one-way from bank street to summit
- Community gardens in vacant lots
- Enhance entrance to downtown should be dramatic both on Rt 5 and Ellicott St. too many signs make them more symbols and less words. Embrace the uniqueness of the neighborhoods
- "Corn hill in Rock" Elmood village
- All of the creek develop, create beautification along creek
- Walking/bike trail that connects "green" areas. Expand Dewitt. Use creek.
- Theme trails and discovery trails.

Idea
Center

Creative & Open Thinking...

We might have missed some of your thoughts along the way. Anything else that you want to share with us as we begin to develop the Comprehensive Plan?

Post-It Notes Here

Post-It Notes Here



Creative and Open Thinking

- Plant trees several years in advance to tree removal/trimming
- Develop County Park on Cedar Street for camping
- Expand city boundaries to encompass all new commercial growth around its edges
- Sidewalks. Especially to and from schools.
- Sidewalks on every street
- Some sidewalks are really close to the road. Bank Street is unshaded and hot to walk in the summer. Carry the painting of the fire hydrants through the whole city.
- Public market
- City and town work together with comp plans.
- Bike plan for the city use signs. Bike lanes to create a network throughout the city.
- Lower school taxes
- RV parking code?
- Redo city chamber - we should have a mayoral government? Need accountability.
- Increase density downtown with a mix of housing, retail, and office space. Attractive design always. Make Batavians product to live here by establish the cities identify.
- Rezone Pearl Street for multifamily housing. We are hoping to build/add to our existing multi-family apartments on 117-123 Pearl St but it is currently not zoned for such.
- More focus on accountability from city government departments. Set goal with metrics and communicate progress.
- Farmer markets are not “downtown” and only once a week. Expand this lost opportunity.
- City sponsored events. Sidewalk band. Art shows. “Get people on the streets”
- Street sweeper to go on streets w/out curbs a few times a year to clear sewer grates.
- When people look to own home: schools, jobs/economy, safety, activities/entertainment work on these
- Focus on small classrooms in schools and healthy lifestyles for students. Will attract new residents.
- Create incentives for locally owned business that give back to live in community. Create jobs and shopping and entertainment.
- Create safer area with more light. Safe sidewalks, bike routes, and policing paired with police/emergency call boxes like many college campuses have.
- Take vacant properties and turn into revenue i.e. under-utilized lot turn into public market so vendors at 100 bucks a year = 5,000 form 0 and creates healthy community event supporting buy local.
- Keep rehab facilities out of R-1/2/3 by change of zoning.