

# **Chapter 7: Strategic Plan & Implementation**



### **Implementation Overview**

### The Implementation Matrix

The Implementation Matrix is a tool to help the City of Oelwein implement the goals and strategies identified in Chapter 4 of the plan. Each strategy is broken down into action items with a priority rating to indicate an estimated timeline and potential partners to implement the action item (though there may be additional parties of interest). The table below describes the features included in the Implementation Matrix.

<b>Goal:</b> The object of a person's ambition or effort; an aim or desired result.									
<b>Strategy 1:</b> First strategy action to achieve the over		a course of	<b>Strategy 2:</b> Second strategy to identify a course of action to achieve the overall goal.						
Action Item 1a1: First action item to help implement the goal's first strategy.	Priority Level: Each action	Partner(s) Each action item is assigned a	Action Item 1b1: First action item to help implement the goal's second strategy.	Priority Level: Each action item is	Partner(s) Each action item is assigned a				
Action Item 1a2 Second action item to help implement the goal's first strategy.	item is provided a priority level.	partner(s) to aid implemen- tation.	Action Item 1b2 Second action item to help implement the goal's second strategy.	provided a priority level.	partner(s) to aid implemen- tation.				

#### **Potential Partners**

AD: Oelwein Administration Department

PZC: Oelwein Planning & Zoning Commission

**CC:** Oelwein City Council

**BOA:** Oelwein Board of Appeals

**ZBOA:** Oelwein Zoning Board of Adjustment

CDD: Oelwein Community Development Department

CAD: Oelwein Chamber & Area Development

**CSC:** Oelwein Civil Service Commission

PR: Oelwein Parks and Recreation Department
PRC: Oelwein Parks & Recreation Commission

PW: Oelwein Public Works Department

**ES:** Oelwein Emergency Services (Fire and Police Department)

PL: Oelwein Public Library

**LBT:** Oelwein Library Board of Trustees **WC:** Oelwein (Williams) Wellness Center

**TB:** Oelwein Tree Board **AB:** Oelwein Airport Board

**IDNR:** Iowa Department of Natural Resources **IDOT:** Iowa Department of Transportation

#### **Priority Levels**

1	2	3	4
Urgent (1-3 years)	Short-term (3-10 years)	Long-term (10-20 years)	Ongoing

### **Implementation Process**

Responsibility for implementing this plan lies primarily with the Oelwein City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, and City Staff.

#### **City Council**

The Oelwein City Council sets priorities, approves budgets, and often has the final say on key aspects of public and private development projects. The value and legitimacy of this plan is directly related to the degree to which Councilmembers are aware of the plan and expect City actions to be consistent with this plan. Each Councilmember should have a copy of this plan and be familiar with the major goals and objectives described herein. The City Council should expect and require that staff recommendations and actions both reference and remain consistent with this plan, or that the plan is amended as needed to fit changing conditions.

#### **Planning & Zoning Commission**

Land use and development recommendations are a core component of this plan, and the Planning and Zoning Commission has a major role in guiding those decisions. Planning and Zoning Commission members shall each have a copy of this plan and shall be familiar with the content. It is generally the responsibility of the Planning and Zoning Commission to determine whether proposed projects are consistent with this plan, and to make decisions and recommendations that are consistent with this plan. In cases where actions that are inconsistent with this plan are deemed to be in the best interest of the City, the Planning and Zoning Commission should initiate efforts to amend the plan to better reflect City interests. This reinforce the legitimacy of the plan as an important tool in guiding City decision making.

#### City Staff

City staff have a significant influence on the selection and completion of all kinds of capital and operational projects. It is imperative that City staff know about, support, and actively work to implement the various strategies and actions in this plan.

Specifically, the following people should consult and reference the Comprehensive Plan during goal-setting processes, annual budgeting, planning for major public projects, and in the review of private development projects:

- City Administration
- Community Development Staff
- Parks and Recreation Staff
- Public Works Staff

These key staff members are expected to know and track the various goals, strategies, and vision laid out in this plan, and to reference that content as appropriate in communications with residents, business owners, and elected and appointed officials. All other staff members should be aware of the plan and the connections between the plan and City projects. The purpose of this extra effort is to strengthen staff recommendations and reinforce the plan as a relevant tool integral to City functions and decision making.

## **Community Vision & Character**

Goal 1:  Continue to improve the health, safety, and well-being of all Oelwein residents.									
Strategy 1a: Enhance safety throughout the City	ein.	Strategy 1b: Improve access to healthcare services and promote a healthy lifestyle.							
Action Item 1a1  Promote civic resilience through community engagment tactics.	3	AD, CC, PZC, CSC, ES	Action Item 1b1  Conduct mobility and walkability studies to analyze areas to focus efforts for improved access to services.		AD, CC, PZC, PR, PRC				
Action Item 1a2  Assess areas of interest for improved lighting, infrastructure, and connectivity to improve the safety of residents in public spaces.	1	AD, CC, PZC, CDD, PW, ES	Action Item 1b2 Enhance parks, trails, and green spaces for recreational opportunities.	2	PR, PRC, TB, IDNR				

Goal 2:  Encourage participation in community-based opportunities.								
Strategy 1a:  Foster a strong sense of community communi	ıltur	e.	Strategy 1b: Continue to offer communty-wide opportunities.	e (	communication			
Action Item 1a1  Promote festivals, community events, and recreational opportunities.	2	AD, CC, PL, LBT, PR, PRC	Action Item 1b1  Encourage accessibility of communication practices between residents and City staff and elected officials.	1	AD, CC, CSC			
Action Item 1a2 Support cultural and arts initiatives that celebrate Oelwein's heritage and resilience.	2	AD, CC, PL, LBT	Action Item 1b2 Establish a community information or "bulletin board" on the City website to provide pertinent information to residents in an accessible platform.	1	AD, CC, CSC			

### **Community Facilities**

### Goal 1:

Maintain reliable and high quality services, utilities, and facilities to encourage growth and reinvestment.

		1 /						
Strategy 1a:  Explore development incentives that prioritize infill development/ redevelopment and utilize existing public infrastructure.			requirements that reduce the need for			improvements or relocate City facilities located in floodplain areas.		
Action Item 1a1 Identify areas where infill or redevelopment are feasible.	1	CDD, CAD	Action Item 1b1 Conduct parking analysis for downtown and high-traffic areas.	2	PW	Action Item 1c1 Identify flood-prone facilities and secure funding for the evaluation of needs.	1	AD, CC, PW, IDNR, CAD
Action Item 1a2 Prioritize design standards and development incentives that utilize infill and redevelopment areas.	2	CDD, CAD	Action Item 1b2 Review and revise parking regulations to adhere to EPA and ADA standards.	2	CDD, PW	Action Item 1c2 Make improvements or relocate based on findings from the evaluation.	2	AD, CC, PW

### Goal 2:

Enhance communication procedures for residents to continue improving the public services and

quality of life for all residents.						
Strategy 1a:		Strategy 1b:				
Adopt a maintenance and replacement schedule into City Code.			Establish regular community outreach processes regarding public facilities and services.			
Action Item 1a1 Identify regular maintenance and replacement needs.	1	AD, CC, CDD, PW	Action Item 1b1 Identify facilities and services that warrant regular feedback.	1	CC, CDD, PW	
Action Item 1a2 Develop maintenance and replacement schedule of facilities, services, and infrastructure.	1	AD, CC, CDD, PW	Action Item 1b2 Develop community communication strategy to gather feedback.	1	AD, CC, PW	

### Housing

#### Goal 1:

Plan for safe, attractive, and accessible housing (physically and financially) to meet existing needs and forecasted housing demands of all residents of the community.

Strategy 1a:		Strategy 1b:					
Produce and maintain community facilities, utilities, and infrastructure that are attractive to developers, current residents, and future residents.			Continue to improve the housing stock of Oelwein through local housing program.				
Action Item 1a1 Adopt development standards that cohere the community and enhance the built environment.	AD, CC, PZC, CDD	Action Item 1b1 Identify ways to optimize impact of funding opportunities to improve quality of owner-occupied housing.  AD, CC, CDD					
Action Item 1a2 Engage residents in community development plans to align new development with the needs of residents.	1	AD, CC, PZC, CDD	Action Item 1b2 Identify ways to expand the impact of the Rental Inspections program both internally and through funding opportunities.	1	AD, CC, CDD		

#### Goal 2:

Support a range of housing options to retain and continue to attract people at various life stages including young professionals, families, and the aging population.

Strategy 1a:  Explore opportunities for mixed- to promote socioeconomic diver		nousing developments	Strategy 1b:  Continue to maintain a comprehensive assessment of the local housing market to identify gaps in affordable housing options.				
Action Item 1a1 Collaborate with local housing authorities, developers, and nonprofit organizations to increase the availability of affordable housing.	2	AD, CC, CDD	Action Item 1b1  Plan for housing studies at regular intervals to remain consistent with housing needs and trends.	ain 2 AD, CC,			
Action Item 1a2 Advocate for state and federal funding programs to support affordable housing initiatives.	2	AD, CC, CDD	Action Item 1b2 Identify funding opportunities to conduct housing studies.	2	AD, CC, CDD		

### Transportation

### Goal 1:

Support a comprehensive transportation system that provides accessibility to traditional and alternative modes of transportation effectively throughout Oelwein.

Strategy 1a: Encourage non-vehicular transportation connectivity.	on op	Strategy 1b: Coordinate transportation plans with other city and regional plans.			
Action Item 1a1 Identify priority nodes for corridor restoration to improve walkability throughout Oelwein.	AD, CC, CDD, PR, PRC	Action Item 1b1  Review internal and external plans regarding transportation and identify opportunities for coordination.	2	AD, CC, PW, IDOT	
Action Item 1a2  Develop a trails and greenways plan to incorporate pedestrian transportation options between parks, essential services, and points of interest throughout Oelwein.	1	AD, CC, CDD, PR, PRC, ES, PW	Action Item 1b2  Coodinate local and regional needs for infrastructure, funding, and maintenance.	2	AD, CC, PW, IDOT

Goal 2:									
Identify and address primary transportation infrastructure needs to reduce barriers across the									
City of Oelwein.									
Strategy 2a:			Strategy 2b:						
Prioritize maintenance and improveme infrastructure.	ent of	transportation	Prioritize safety in multimodal transpo	ortatio	n development.				
Action Item 2a1 Identify solutions to the deterioration of the Charles Street Bridge and Viaduct.	1	AD, CC, CDD, PW	Action Item 2b1  Review traffic incident data and identify crash mitigation strategies.	2	PW, ES				
Action Item 2a2 Identify funding opportunities to implement solutions identified for the Charles Street Bridge and Viaduct.	1	AD, CC, CDD, PW	Action Item 2b2 Identify signage needs and implement cohesive signage for vehicular and non-vehicular traffic.	2	AD, CC, PW, ES, PR				

## Parks and Recreation

Goal 1:  Provide a robust recreation system to all residents and visitors.									
Strategy 1a: Diversify recreational facilities to for numerous activities.	nd opportunities	Strategy 1c: Prioritize distribution of adequate green space in future development.							
Action Item 1a1  Develop a comprehensive inventory of current and desired recreational facilities and activities.	2	PW, PR, PRC	Action Item 1c1 Identify areas deficient in recreational space.  CC, PZC, PR, PRC						
Action Item 1a2 Establish a means to fund current and additional recreational opportunities for residents and individuals.	۱ ۾	AD, CC, PR, PRC	Action Item 1c2  Create development standards to include adequate green space in future land use plans.	1	CC, PZC, PR, PRC				

## Parks and Recreation (continued)

### Goal 2:

Develop and support a comprehensive system of safe, aesthetically pleasing, and useful open spaces and trails that

serve the entire community.									
Strategy 2a:			Strategy 2a:			Strategy 2b:			
with government en and civic organization	stablish and continue partnerships vith government entities, churches nd civic organizations to provide ecreation facilities and programs.			facilities and programs for residents and visitors.			Devise a comprehensive park and recreation assessment and plan that evaluates impacts of the Otter Creek tributary on existing parks and potential greenspace.		
Action Item 2a1  I d e n t i f y opportunities for and encourage involvement in regional trail development.	2	AD, CC, PR, PRC	Action Item 1b1  Evaluate physical and financial accessibility to recreational services for residents and visitors of all socioeconomic situations.	1	AD, CC, PR, PRC, CAD	Action Item 2b1  Identify alternatives for existing parks and potential recreation areas that are impacted by flooding of the Otter Creek tributary, including Wings park.	1	AD, CC, PR, PRC, IDNR	
Action Item 2a2 Coordinate Oelwein's transportation and recreation plans with those of the region to optimize projects and development.	2	AD, CC, CDD, PR, PRC, IDOT	Action Item 1b2 Engage community members to help guide recreational planning and development.	2	AD, CC, PR, PRC	Action Item 2b2  Consider redevelopment, relocation, and any other feasible flood mitigation tactics to reduce impact on park and recreation areas.		AD, CC, PR, PRC, IDNR	

### **Economic Development**

### Goal 1:

Encourage diverse economic opportunities for business development and commerce to support job opportunities and amenities for Oelwein residents and the region.

Strategy 1a: Support the development of public and that aid existing and potential busines		Strategy 1b: Provide guidance for future economic growth.			
Action Item 1a1 Support the Oelwein Area Chamber of Commerce and provide resources for businesses to engage with the Chamber via the City website and various public spaces.	2	AD, CC	Action Item 1b1  Engage with the Oelwein community to understand economic needs of businesses and residents.	1	AD, CC, CAD
Action Item 1a2  Develop City-sponsored events to increase awareness of local businesses.	3	AD, CC, CAD	Action Item 1b2  Create a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) plan to help guide future economic growth.	1	AD, CC, CDD, PZC, CAD

## **Economic Development (continued)**

### Goal 2:

Support strategic economic growth within the Downtown area and provide additional retailers, businesses, and services for the community.

services for the community.					
Strategy 1a:  Focus on revitalization and accessbili Oelwein.	Strategy 1b:  Create walkable, people-oriented places that are enjoyable to inhabit and that enable people to walk between businesses.				
Action Item 1a1  Ensure that all land uses are connected by safe and efficient vehicular and non-vehicular transportation infrastructure.	CC, PZC, CDD, PW	Action Item 1b1  Use wayfinding signage throughout the community to direct traffic to local businesses.	2	AD, CC, PZC, PW	
Action Item 1a2 Incentivize beautification methods in Downtown Oelwein (such as plantings, murals, and façade improvements) that create an enjoyable space for residents and visitors to walk.	2	CC, PZC, CDD, PW, PR, PRC	Action Item 1b2  Analyze parking regulations to optimize parking availability for customers and employees, minimize unused parking, and promote walkable areas.	2	AD, CC, PZC, CDD, PW

## Agricultural & Natural Resources

### Goal 1:

Manage, enhance, and preserve land and water resources by preserving the natural environment through development mitigation strategies in pertinent natural areas including wetlands and floodplains.

Thirtigation strategies in pertinent flatural areas including wetlands and noodplains.								
Strategy 1a:				Strategy 1b:				
	Support healthy watersheds.			Enhance existing natural areas.				
	Action Item 1a1 Incentivize robust plantings in new development areas.  AD, CC, CDD, PR, PRC		Action Item 1b1  Identify unique natural areas for restoration projects.  2 CDD, PR, IDNF					
	Action Item 1a2  Preserve the natural character of the watershed through green space acquisition, floodplain regulations, and drainage corridor and buffer protection.		CC, PZC, CDD, PR, PRC, IDNR	Action Item 1b2 Apply for funding opportunities for natural restoration projects.	2	AD, CC, PR, PRC, IDNR		

#### Goal 2:

Support the protection and enhancement of natural features native to Oelwein and the region.

Strategy 1a:  Conserve and restore natural fea natural waterways.	such as trees and	Strategy 1b: Support community gardens, farmers markets and other similar community based food projects.			
Action Item 1a1  Identify reasonable means of natural features conservation and restoration during development processes.	1	AD, CC, CDD, PZC, PR, PRC, TB, IDNR	Action Item 1b1  Conduct community needs assessment for local food systems.	1	AD, CC, CDD, PZC, PR, PRC
Action Item 1a2  Establish development regulations that conserve and/or restore of natural features to that comparable to pre-development.		AD, CC, CDD, PR, PRC, TB, IDNR	Action Item 1b2 Identify resources such as space, time, and partnerships to establish a robust local food system.	2	AD, CC, CDD, PZC, PR, PRC

Goal 1:
Encourage sustainable practices throughout the community including development and infrastructure methods.

				_		Les de la			
Strategy 1a: Promote environme sustainability.	enta	al	Strategy 1b: Support economic sustainab	ustainability.  Provide relocation opportunities for properties and residential properties that are impacted by flooding of the Otter Creek			e chronically		
Action Item 1a1 Encourage energy efficiency in buildings, lighting, and infrastructure.	2	AD, CC, PZC, CDD, PW	Action Item 1b1 Establish cost/benefit analysis procedures to determine the most economically sustainable means of public expenditures.	1	AD, CC, PW, CAD	Action Item 1c1  Evaluate patterns of flood occurrences including the impacts and resources necessary for recovery from various perspectives such as personal resources, community resources, and flood insurance, among others.	3	AD, CC, PW, ES, PR, IDNR	
Action Item 1a2 Support the development practices that allow for the capture and use of clean energy.	2	AD, CC, PZC, CDD, PW	Action Item 1b2 Utilize CEDS, Oelwein Comprehensive Plan, Long Range Transportation Plan, and other local plans to help prioritize future activities and maximize funding strategies for projects.	2	AD, CC, PZC, CAD	Action Item 1c2 Develop community programs and secure funding based on the findings of a floodplain evaluation to help mitigate challenges for properties that are chronically impacted by flooding of the Otter Creek Tributary.	2	AD, CC, PW, ES, PR, IDNR	

#### Goal 2:

Participate in development and implementation of local emergency plans including the Fayette County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Strategy 2a: Engage in maintaining and advertising the Fa	ayett	Strategy 2b:  Encourage neighborhood involvement to increase safety through active participation of residents.			
Action Item 2a1 Continually monitor local changes that may affect the Fayette County Hazard Mitigation Plan.	2	AD, CC, PZC, ES	Action Item 2b1 Create safe and inviting spaces for residents to inhabit in their leisure time.	2	AD, CC, PZC, ES
Action Item 2a2 Promote education and awareness regarding hazards and risks in the community.	2	AD, CC, ES	Action Item 2b2 Establish a community communication network that promotes information sharing, especially in emergency situations.	1	AD, CC, ES

### **Intergovernmental Collaboration**

### Goal 1:

Coordinate with Fayette County, neighboring counties, and neighboring municipalities to optimize regional planning efforts.

Strategy 1a:			Strategy 1b:			
Coordinate with Fayette County a municipalities to develop mutuall plans.			Coordinate with local partners to develop a cohesive, convenient transportation system.			
Action Item 1a1 Identify areas of overlapping or adjacent juristiction.	2	AD, CC, PZC	Action Item 1b1 Participate in intergovernmental councils and committees.	2	AD, CC, PZC	
Action Item 1a2 Form relationships with necessary partners to develop procedures for coordinating future growth plans.	2	AD, CC, PZC	Action Item 1b2 Identify overlapping needs and work to make Oelwein's plans considerate and beneficial to the region.	2	AD, CC, PZC	

#### Goal 2:

Partner with local, state, and federal agencies to enhance the culture and resources of Oelwein.

Strategy 1a: Support the Oelwein Community School District in their growth and community engagement activities.			Strategy 1b:  Partner with the lowa Department of Natural Resources to advance planning efforts for natural resources, green space and trail development.			
Action Item 1a1 Engage with the Oelwein Community School District regarding development plans and community activities.	1	AD, CC, PZC, PL, LBT, WC	Action Item 1b1 Seek representatives from Fayette County Conservation, Fayette County Soil and Water Conservation District, and other state agencies to help guide planning efforts and implementation.	2	AD, CC, PZC, PR, PRC, TB, IDNR	
Action Item 1a2 Promote community activities on the City website and various public spaces.	1	AD, CC, PZC, PL, LBT, WC	Action Item 1b2 Promote local conservation efforts on the City website and various public spaces.	2	AD, CC, PZC, PR, PRC, TB	

#### **Northern Oelwein Land Use Goal:** Maintain quality housing and by encouraging the maintenance and improvement of the existing housing stock and properties. **Strategy 2: Strategy 1:** Improve the local rental process for both renters and Pursue opportunities to improve existing housing tenants. stock. **Action Item 1.1 Action Item 2.1**

Action Item 1.2			Action Item 2.2							
Southern Oelwein Land L	Southern Oelwein Land Use Goal:									

Support economic development and recreational development opportunities that promote quality of life.										
Strategy 1: Support and seek growth that opportunities.	Strategy 2: Support and seek commercial growth that reinforces the transitional nature of the corridor.			reinforces						
Action Item 1.1			Action Item 2.1							
Action Item 1.2			Action Item 2.2							

## Land Use

Eatern Oelwein Land Use Goal:								
Continue to improve connectivity to local resources.								
Strategy 1:  Promote sustainable development arthis area.	nd new growth in	Strategy 2: Connect neighborhoods to schools, ho	ospital, and highways.					
Action Item 1.1		Action Item 2.1						
Action Item 1.2		Action Item 2.2						
Western Oelwein Land Use Goal:  Improve housing stock by promoting infill opportunities and removing housing structures in poor condition.								
Strategy 1: Remove dilapidated and depressed the city.	housing through	Strategy 2: Identify lots for infill and encourage development.						
Action Item 1.1		Action Item 2.1						
Action Item 1.2		Action Item 2.2						
<b>Downtown Oelwein Land</b>	Use Goal:							
		tenance and improvement of the existin	ng housing stock and					
Strategy 1: Pursue opportunities to improve exist	ing housing stock.	Strategy 2: Improve the local rental process for tenants.	or both renters and					
Action Item 1.1		Action Item 2.1						
Action Item 1.2		Action Item 2.2						

Downtown Goals:									
Strategy 1:  Promote, encourage, and support housing opportunities and growth throughout the downtown area.			Strategy 2: Support retail, office, and service uses downtown.			Strategy 2: Promote and develop efforts toward strengthening and enhancing the character of the downtown.			
Action Item 1.1 Support the maintenance and expansion of housing downtown.	1		Action Item 2.1 Focus ground floor commercial development along N Frederick Avenue, Charles Street, and 1st Avenue.	1		Action Item 2.1 Consider setting design standards for signage and new/existing building facades.	1		
Action Item 1.2 Support medium and higher density housing infill.	1		Action Item 2.2 Diversify entertainment and retail opportunities downtown, including expansion of utility needs for outdoor vendors to support community events.	1		Action Item 2.2 Improve and maintain the streetscape			
		Action Item 2.3 Require quality redevelopment and regular maintenance of commercial properties in downtown area.	1		(including parking lots) and support community art opportunities in the downtown.	1			

### Downtown

Built Environment Goal:  Promote and develop efforts toward strengthening and enhancing the character of the downtown area.										
Strategy 1:  Consider setting design standards for signage and new and existing building facades.					Strategy 2: Improve and manage parking lots in the downtown area.					
Action Item 1.1					Action Item 2.1					
Action Item 1.2					Action Item 2.2					
Commerical Business Goal:										
Support retail, office, and servi Strategy 1:  Focus ground floor commercial development along N Frederick Avenue, Charles Street, and 1st Avenue.			Strategy 2:  Diversify entertainment and r				Strategy 3:  Require quality redevelopment and regular maintenance of commercial properties in the downtown area.			
Action Item 1.1	1		Act	ion Item 2.1		Action Item 3.1				
Action Item 1.2			Act	ion Item 2.2			Action Item 3.2			

