

Key Assets



Proximity to Chicago and several other major metro areas



Stable major employers



Full-service hospital



Excellent railroad access



Quality parks and dynamic special events



Tremendous volunteer/community support



Scenic Vermilion River



Affordable housing stock



State of the art I-Fiber network



Quality schools

Key Issues

- Lack of career training and higher education opportunities
- Stressed neighborhoods
- Increasing lower income population drawn by low cost of living
- Substance abuse and community health concerns
- Decreasing public school funding
- Continued efforts to improve regional and local community image
- Lack of destinations for residents and visitors
- Need for more youth and senior recreation opportunities
- Not on interstate highway
- Reduce impacts from flooding and other natural hazards

Enhance the City's quality of life

- Capitalize further on residents' outstanding volunteer and community involvement ethic
- Improve the City's housing stock and neighborhood aesthetics
- Work collaboratively to strengthen the education system at all levels
- Develop additional opportunities for adult recreation and cultural activities
- Strengthen the health care system
- Activate the Vermilion River and support recreation, especially biking, hiking, and paddle sports

Engage youth in the community and foster welcoming environment for young families

- Partner with local organizations to expand youth and family recreational programs and offerings
- Encourage young people to stay in Streator or return to begin careers and families
- Work with providers to improve health care services to special populations such as women, people who struggle with substance abuse, and the elderly
- Explore opportunities to reuse recently closed churches and schools to serve neighborhood and community needs

Promote the long-term economic viability of the City

- Improve regional relationships and promote a regional approach to economic development
- Maintain aggressive and responsive local economic development efforts
- Continue open and direct communication between the City and businesses
- Build on the City's municipal equipment manufacturing niche
- Develop strategies to make rail-served sites available and recruit rail uses
- Enhance Downtown Streator as the center of government services, local businesses, and tourism

Make Streator a destination

- Develop a variety of annual events and advertise throughout Illinois
- Continue to improve the community's image among residents and throughout the region
- Recruit a hotel developer
- Develop a tourism strategy
- Implement the Greenways Master Plan
- Investigate development of a major regional attraction
- Prepare a branding and marketing campaign

A Quiet Surprise on the Prairie

"Streator is a quiet city of neighbors who care, located on the central Illinois prairie with a destination downtown, abundant recreational opportunities centered on the Vermilion River greenway, and a diverse and resilient manufacturing history and future."