

# City of Beaver Bay Comprehensive Plan Update Committee Meeting

*In the future, the City of Beaver Bay is...*

## **Public Visioning Review Meeting**

**November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

**Green Door-Lower Level**

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Community Survey Update
3. Background Review
  - a. Past Planning Efforts
4. Review and add details to Categorized Visioning Session Information
  - a. Draft Vision Statement Review
  - b. Goal Statements
  - c. Categorized Assets, Issues, and Opportunities
5. Next Steps
  - a. ARDC will study the list of threats and will analyze them to determine a preliminary course of action the City can take to address individual threats.
  - b. Suggestions/recommendation ideas will be made for actions that will create desired new assets.

The City of Beaver Bay Comprehensive Plan Update is being led by the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC). Project contact:

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# **Beaver Bay 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update**

## **Review of Recommendations from Previous Beaver Bay Plans**

### **2006 Comprehensive Plan**

#### **❖ *Transportation Recommendations***

- T 1: Support the reconstruction of Truck Highway 61.
- T 2: Support improved streetscape design in the city core.
- T 3: Participate in the Lake County Five-Year Construction Plan process.
- T 4: Develop a five-year capital improvement program for city streets.

#### **❖ *Recreation Recommendations***

- R 1: Support development of the Beaver Bay Trailhead facility.
- R 2: Relocate and expand Jim Janzen Park.
- R 3: Establish a signed snowmobile route through town.
- R 4: Support efforts to improve and expand area trails and recreational facilities.

#### **❖ *Water and Wastewater Recommendations***

- W 1: Continue with current efforts to update and expand water and wastewater systems.
- W 2: Allow ISTS and alternative wastewater treatment methods in areas outside the reach of the centralized wastewater and water systems.

#### **❖ *Economic Recommendations***

- E 1: Research the acquisition of Mn/DOT parcel near TH 61 and create a business park.
- E 2: Prepare an orderly annexation study for identified areas (adopt annexation statement).
- E 3: Develop and adopt both a standardized development policy for projects involving five or more acres and five or more units.
- E 4: Support the North Shore Scenic Drive Council.

#### **❖ *Land Use and Zoning Recommendations***

- LZ 1: Create a “Downtown Design” district.
- LZ 2: Add design standards to existing commercial district.
- LZ 3: Develop a universal development code.
- LZ 4: Adopt 2004 North Shore management standards.
- LZ 5: Adopt specific vegetation management standards in shore land zone.
- LZ 6: Restrict new billboards in Beaver Bay.
- LZ 7: The Beaver Bay City Council should work with the North Shore Management Board to form a Lake Superior Design Review Committee for the shore and ridgeline.
- LZ 8: The Design Review Committee should undertake a study that will help them define the appropriate design standards for Lake Superior properties.

# **Beaver Bay 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update Review of Recommendations from Previous Beaver Bay Plans**

## **❖ *Housing Recommendations***

- H 1: Amend the City's Planned Unit Development Ordinance to include density bonus provisions for projects that incorporate affordable housing.
- H 2: Apply for a Small Cities Development Program Housing Grant.
- H 3: Participate in regional affordable housing groups.

## **❖ *Community Development Recommendations***

- C 1: Work with the Beaver Bay Club to relocate the fire hall to Highway 4 and Old Towne Road.
- C 2: Work with the historical society to improve interpretation of local history, especially history of John Beargrease, at the visitor's center.

## Beaver Bay Comprehensive Plan Update Draft Vision Statement Development

Community Vision Nugget Exercise completed on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### *In the future, the City of Beaver Bay is...*

- A great place to raise a family
- A great place to retire
- The best smelt fry around
- Friendly people
- A fun place to celebrate winter
- A fun place to enjoy the big lake
- Growing
- A destination
- Healthy
- Wealthy
- Tourist friendly
- Clean
- True to its history
- Small town awesome
- Accessible
- Reliable
- Gets along better
- Has better equipment Good place to stop
- A clean friendly community
- Where committees work together
- A place for recreation and family time
- A destination for all
- A great place for children
- Outdoor destination
- Tourist destination
- Directly accessible to state parks
- A small historic city
- Great place to stop and explore
- Directly accessible to trail systems
- Inviting and welcoming
- Safe
- Historical
- Beautiful
- Solid financially
- In great physical shape
- Well maintained
- Affordable
- Prosperous businesses
- Welcoming and engaging to new members
- A tourist destination
- Apartment free

**Beaver Bay Comprehensive Plan Update  
Draft Vision Statement Development  
2006 Adopted Community Vision Statement**

In 2020, Beaver Bay has retained its traditional small town feel by balancing commercial and housing development with the natural environment; and by protecting the scenic Trunk Highway 61 corridor, the authentic character of the city center, and views of Lake Superior.

Beaver Bay has an attractive downtown and highway business district. The City is welcoming and motorists traveling on the North Shore Scenic Drive regularly stop and walk around town visiting the City's retailers, park, trailhead, and other attractions. The City has become a popular stopping point for recreational enthusiasts using the area's many trails and facilities.

Beaver Bay has a strong local economy diversified beyond tourism having attracted commercial development and light industry. A base of affordable housing stock provides the opportunity for working and middle class families to live and work in the City. Many of the City's new residents were one time visitors attracted to the quality of life and friendliness of the residents of Beaver Bay.

**DRAFT Community Vision Statements?**

1. *In the future, the City of Beaver Bay* is a beautiful, clean, historically rich community focused on providing a healthy living environment for its visitors and residents alike. while becoming a leader in economic development with many recreational opportunities.
2. *In the future, the City of Beaver Bay* is a well-connected, accessible community, providing opportunities for visitors and residents to live, shop, and eat. It is a safe, walkable, inviting community that is supported by a wide variety of recreational activities for all ages. Beaver Bay will continue to be a city in which tourists will want to visit and where residents desire to live.
3. *In the future, the City of Beaver Bay* is a happy and healthy community that embraces its history and culture, contains a great business climate, an abundance of recreational opportunities and is becoming a desirable city for tourists to visit and a place that residents are proud to call home.

# City of Beaver Bay Comprehensive Plan Update

## Categorized Community Assets, Issues and Barriers

### ***Housing***

**Draft Goal:** The City of Beaver Bay will strive to provide housing that offers affordable and sustainable options with rental and ownership opportunities; creating equitable housing options accessible to facilities that contribute to a healthy lifestyle for residents of all ages.

Community assets and opportunities (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Housing as a whole
- *Removal of apartment building*
- *Bringing in young families*

Community issues, barriers and threats (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Seasonal residents
- Unseen things in the apartment building
- Infrastructure
- *Rising property taxes*
- Junk cars/ properties/ yards
- Determining property ownership
- *Apartment stays*

### ***Transportation***

**Draft Goal:** The City of Beaver Bay will provide a safe, transportation system focused on various modes of transportation (auto, bike, pedestrian, etc.) which connect local and regional destinations; a system focused on safe and healthy travel options for all of Beaver Bay's citizens and visitors alike.

Community assets and opportunities (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Bike/Hiking Trail
- Edith Street
- Snowmobile trail
- *Better lighting on Highway 61*
- *ATV/Snowmobile loop*
- *Road improvements*
- Highway 61
- Lower speed limits
- Rock cuts on Highway 61
- *Mountain bike trail*
- *Fat tire trails*
- *Better lighting on Highway*

Community issues, barriers and threats (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Highway 61 speeders
- Road infrastructure
- Parking on Highway 61
- *Funding*

# City of Beaver Bay Comprehensive Plan Update

## Categorized Community Assets, Issues and Barriers

### *Utilities and Community Facilities*

**Draft Goal:** The City of Beaver Bay will stay committed to providing residents with effective infrastructure to city structures, water and sanitary systems, recreational facilities, and other public facilities and services, through a systematic short-range planning process to ensure the health of the citizens of Beaver Bay.

Community assets and opportunities (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Community Center
- Church
- Playground
- Fishing house
- Post Office
- Skating rink
- Wayside rest
- *Post office improvements*
- *Finish the playground*
- *Additional waste water facilities*
- *Police force*

Community issues, barriers and threats (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- No police force
- Infrastructure
- Not caring about the community
- Skating rink safety
- Loss of power with water/sewer issues
- *Funding*
- *Aging water system*
- *Ditching and culvert system*

### *Economic Development*

**Draft Goal:** The City of Beaver Bay will embrace partnership opportunities with new and existing businesses by advocating for manageable growth and retaining an aesthetically pleasing environment including buffers between residential and commercial uses.

Community assets and opportunities (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Events at Green Door
- Community Events (“Bay to Bay run”, “Rhythm and Roots festival”, Dog Sled Race”, “Annual bike ride”)
- Local restaurants
- Gas stations
- Local businesses/gift shops
- *Smelt fry*
- *More community events*
- *Marketing*
- *Replacing apartment building with a new hotel*
- *Green Door expansion*
- *More investment into new businesses*
- *Community Gardens*
- *Theater group*
- *More events after Bay to Bay run*
- *Radio station*
- *Info sign/placing of city sign*
- *Road Improvements*
- *Solar power/alternative energy*
- *Banners/flags/flowers*
- *Better city equipment*

## **City of Beaver Bay Comprehensive Plan Update Categorized Community Assets, Issues and Barriers**

### Community issues, barriers and threats (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Lack of enterprise funds
- Seasonal residents
- Property ownership
- *Discouragement of new businesses*
- *Rising property taxes*
- Age of population
- Infrastructure
- Capacity of people
- *Apartment stays*
- *Even more aging population*

### ***Natural, Agricultural or Cultural Resources***

**Draft Goal:** The City of Beaver Bay will preserve and embrace its cultural, historical, and natural resources and provide a deeper connection of a sense of place to its citizens and travelers alike; balancing local agricultural and mining interests, while considering sustainable resources that support the health of the City's environment and people.

### Community Assets and Opportunities (*Italicized-future assets identified*)

- Lake Superior
- Clean Air/ Clean Water
- Rock Cuts on the highway
- Native American Cemetery
- Trails
- *Agreement with the BB Club for lake access (long term)*
- *Back up energy for water/waste water*
- *Community gardens*
- Beaver River
- Trees
- Lake access
- History of Bear Grease
- *Improving the lake access*
- *Solar power/alternative energy*
- *City clean up*

### Community issues, barriers and threats (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Hold pond security
- Lake access safety
- Environmental problems
- Weather

### ***Recreation, Parks, Open Space, Cultural Arts***

**Draft Goal:** The City of Beaver Bay will strive to enhance the recreational and cultural facilities & opportunities available by implementing projects and programs which provide an array of opportunities to residents and travelers of all ability levels. Beaver Bay will provide solicit and utilize public input to ensure equitable access to facilities that promote the health and well-being of every member in the community.



# City of Beaver Bay Comprehensive Plan Update

## Categorized Community Assets, Issues and Barriers

### Community Assets and Opportunities (*Italicized-future assets identified*):

- Playground
- Bike/Hiking trails
- Community Events
- Active citizens
- Beaver River
- *Improving lake access*
- *Theater group*
- *Fat tire trail*
- *Finish the playground*
- Trees
- Wayside rest
- Skating Rink
- Fishing house
- Lake Superior
- *Agreement with BB club for lake access (long term)*
- *ATV/snowmobile loop*
- *Radio station*

### Community issues, barriers and threats (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Lake access safety
- Environmental problems
- Skating rink safety
- *Funding*
- Junk cars/properties/yards
- Weather
- Lighting issue

### ***Land Use***

**Draft Goal:** The City of Beaver Bay will utilize policies that promote sustainable land use by actively assessing future needs and promoting the most effective use of each property while balancing cost efficient public services and environmental health. Beaver Bay's land use policies will be clear, concise and easy to administer.

### Community Assets and opportunities (*Italicized-future assets identified*):

- Wooden water tower
- Biking/ Hiking/snowmobile trails
- Wayside Rest
- *Hotel replacing the old apartment building*
- *Additional waste water facilities (tax property)*
- *Community Gardens*
- *Mountain bike trail*
- Lake access
- Native American Cemetery
- Local businesses/restaurants
- *Housing*
- *Expansion of different businesses*
- *ATV/Snowmobile trail loop*
- *Improving lake access*
- *Code enforcement*

### Community issues, barriers, and threats (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Determining land ownership
- Junk cars/properties/yards
- Old water tower
- *Rising property taxes*

# **City of Beaver Bay Comprehensive Plan Update Categorized Community Assets, Issues and Barriers**

## ***Intergovernmental cooperation***

**Draft Goal:** The City of Beaver Bay will work cooperatively with Lake County, neighboring communities and other public and private entities to provide high quality, cost effective, public services to residents throughout the community on issues of economic, equitable, social, health, environmental, and cultural significance.

### Community Assets and Opportunities (*Italicized-future assets identified*):

- Highway 61
- Lake Superior

### Community issues, barriers, and threats (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Lack of services (police force, fire station, etc.)
- Funding
- Property ownership

## ***Implementation***

**Draft Goal:** The City of Beaver Bay will work as an entity and with stakeholders to complete the strategies and projects identified in the Comprehensive Plan Update and will the review and update implementation priorities and status annually.

### Community Assets and opportunities (*Italicized-future assets identified*):

- Small community
- City pride
- Experienced people
- Beaver Bay Community Association
- Family ties
- Active citizens
- Community events

### Community issues, barriers and threats (*Italicized = future assets identified*):

- Age of population
- Not caring about the community
- Harmony in the community
- *Even more aging population*
- Seasonal residents
- Stubborn residents
- Capacity of people