

Goal 2: Facilitate improved response to emergencies.

Recommended Actions

1. Coordinate with town, county and state police authorities to promote quicker responses to emergency calls.
2. Consider full time or part time local police protection.
3. Develop a Neighborhood Watch Program.

Goal 3: Explore options for providing services and facilities for special needs groups such as senior citizens, disabled persons or single mothers.

Recommended Actions

1. Consider sites for senior citizen services and housing. The vacant land to the east of Fish Creek offers several sites for future development
2. Explore options for facilities and programs for social services and recreation for a variety of special needs groups. These activities could be linked to the development of a community recreational center.

Parks & Recreation

Community and recreational facilities are very important to the Village, to satisfy the needs of the community and to help define the character of the Village. According to the results of the Residential Survey, when asked if they are satisfied with the recreational facilities and programs offered by the Village, 52% stated that they were not satisfied with recreation programs offered for youth. Specific recreational facilities desired by residents include a park for children, a recreation center with pool and fitness equipment, and more youth activities. In addition, 64% of the respondents wanted to see more public trails and greenways in the Village.

The only municipal park, Victory Park, is located on a slope and is too small for most recreational facilities. There are no recreational programs available for the residents of the Village. The youth population is perceived to be problematic by some because the Village of Victory is lacking sufficient day care and teenagers are not offered enough after school programs, or other recreational opportunities. The Village should work more closely with the schools and parents to determine how to solve these problems. Some have suggested the need for a community/youth center, or some similar form of entertainment, and more summer activities to keep youth busy.

There are opportunities for the Village to develop park sites other than Victory Park for residents and visitors. Indoor recreational and social programs should be developed as well, to meet the year round needs of the residents.

In a developed area, pockets of greenspace become significant to provide active and passive recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. One small parcel of Village owned-land off Bridge Street lies adjacent to Fish Creek. This vacant parcel would be an ideal location for an additional Village park with a view to the creek.

The historic nature of the entire region suggests recreational development that would complement the tourism industry. The first opportunity for recreational development lies in the wooded area presently owned by the National Parks Service. In this area, bike or pedestrian trails connecting the Battle Monument and the nearby historic General Schuyler house would provide a recreational amenity as well as a link for historic resources. The park could also contain picnic grounds

and other recreational amenities for residents and visitors. The privately owned wooded areas to the east of Fish Creek are also another key area that has great potential for tourism/recreational uses, since it is adjacent to Route 4 and across from the General Schuyler house. Recreational uses could be complimented with commercial uses that relate to tourism. Motels, restaurants, specialty shops, and commercial recreational uses such as miniature golf would have a strategic location there.

The following Goals and Recommendations support these concepts.

Goal 1: Develop additional park space within the Village for recreational opportunities for residents and to enhance the Village as a visitor destination.

Recommended Actions

1. Develop the Village owned triangular property at the intersection of Bridge Street and Evans Street as a Village Park. Incorporate views to Fish Creek and a variety of recreational facilities in the park design.
2. Work with the National Parks Service to acquire or develop the Victory Woods as a parkland for residents and visitors. Incorporate historical information kiosks, picnic and sports areas, and nature trails, with links to the Saratoga Battle Monument and the Phillip Schuyler Home.
3. Work with owners of private lands to the east of Fish Creek to develop the area for recreational and tourism uses. Possibilities are picnic areas, nature trails, commercial uses such as specialty shops, motels, restaurants and commercial recreational uses such as miniature golf.

Goal 2: Develop Recreational Indoor Programs.

Recommended Activities

1. Create a community recreational facility at an appropriate location – the current Village Hall, a new Village of Victory facility at a new location, or a joint community center with the Village of Schuylerville at a location to be determined.
2. Appoint an Activities Director to be responsible for program development and involving the public in community activities and programs.
3. Expand current recreational and social programs at Village Hall and develop new ones.
4. Work with the school district and parents to develop after school activities and other programs for children and teenagers.

Transportation & Infrastructure

The public water and sanitary sewer system in the Village is one of the Village's chief assets. Current problems with water quality will be solved with the completion of a new filtration facility in 2003. Natural gas service is available to only certain portions of the Village, and some residents feel that this service should be extended to the rest of the Village.

Since the state and local roads within the Village are in general good repair, road conditions were not raised as an issue by stakeholders or the public, neither were traffic conditions or transportation needs.

However, the condition of sidewalks, and the general appearance of streets, and street trees is an issue for Committee members, stakeholders and the general public. The property owner is responsible for the installation and/or repair of sidewalks. However, this responsibility is not always understood or carried out by the property owner. Additionally, some sidewalks on vacant properties are not maintained at all and left to deteriorate. The result is poor sidewalks throughout the Village.

The Village can improve the appearance of Route 32 and local roads by implementing the following goal and recommended activities.

Goal 1: Improve the appearance and conditions of Village streets and sidewalks.

Recommended Actions

1. Adopt design guidelines for Route 32.
2. Establish a Streetscaping/Landscapping program for Route 32 including trees, lighting and other street amenities.
3. Develop a sign ordinance.
4. Create a comprehensive wayfinding signage program.

5. Work with the Post Office to improve the parking lot.
6. Create a sidewalk improvement program and explore funding sources for the installation or repair of sidewalks throughout the Village.
7. Create attractive "Gateways" to welcome motorists/tourists into the Village.

Goal # 2. Improve State Roads.

1. Work with NYSDOT to improve or install sidewalks along state routes

Goal # 3. Improve appearance of Lighting on all streets.

1. Work with NIMO to remove redundant light poles on all streets

Goal #4. Explore options for having the gas service extended to areas that are not currently served.

1. Survey residents to ascertain the need for extended gas service.
2. Work with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation to extend the gas service to streets where residents desire natural gas service.