

The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of a city. The top half shows a vast expanse of green trees under a bright, hazy sky with a low sun on the left, creating a lens flare effect. A dark blue horizontal band across the middle contains the title text. The bottom half shows a closer aerial view of a city intersection with a large brick building on the left, a modern brick building on the right, and a multi-lane road with traffic lights and a few cars.

FOUNDATIONS OF LOCAL PLANNING

20 Years of Planning in La Porte

- City and County **regularly lead and manage plans**, studies, and design initiatives **to prepare for future growth and investment** in the community
- Seven of these plans **will meaningfully inform** this planning process
- **Six** planning-related efforts **have been completed since 2020**, five included significant public input
- **Countywide Land Development Plan** (2008) and La Porte City-County Revised **Joint Zoning Ordinance** (2017) are currently **guiding** land use and zoning **decisions** in La Porte today
- While plans are joint, La Porte's planning decisions are made at the city level

20 Years of Planning in La Porte

2023

- **Trails, Greenways, and Blueways Master Plan**
- Downtown Parking Study

2022

- **La Porte Housing Strategy**

2018

- City of La Porte 5-Year Park and Recreation Master Plan 2018-2022

2017

- Wayfinding Sign System Design
- La Porte Youth Downtown and Lakes Development Plan
- La Porte City-County Revised Joint Zoning Ordinance

2008

- Countywide Land Development Plan

2020

- La Porte Signage Study
- **Heart of La Porte Healthy Living Plan**
- Action Agenda for Vibrant Communities of LaPorte County

2015

- Gateway Corridor Revitalization Plan

2013

- Thirty-Nine North Economic Development Area Plan

2011

- La Porte Downtown Design Standards

2006

- Downtown Action Agenda



2008

2008 *Countywide Land Use Plan*



2018

2020 *NIRPC Greenways and Blueways Plan*



2018

2050 *NIRPC Metropolitan Transportation Plan*



2020

2020 *Heart of La Porte - A Health Living Plan*



2019

2022

2022 *La Porte Housing Strategy*



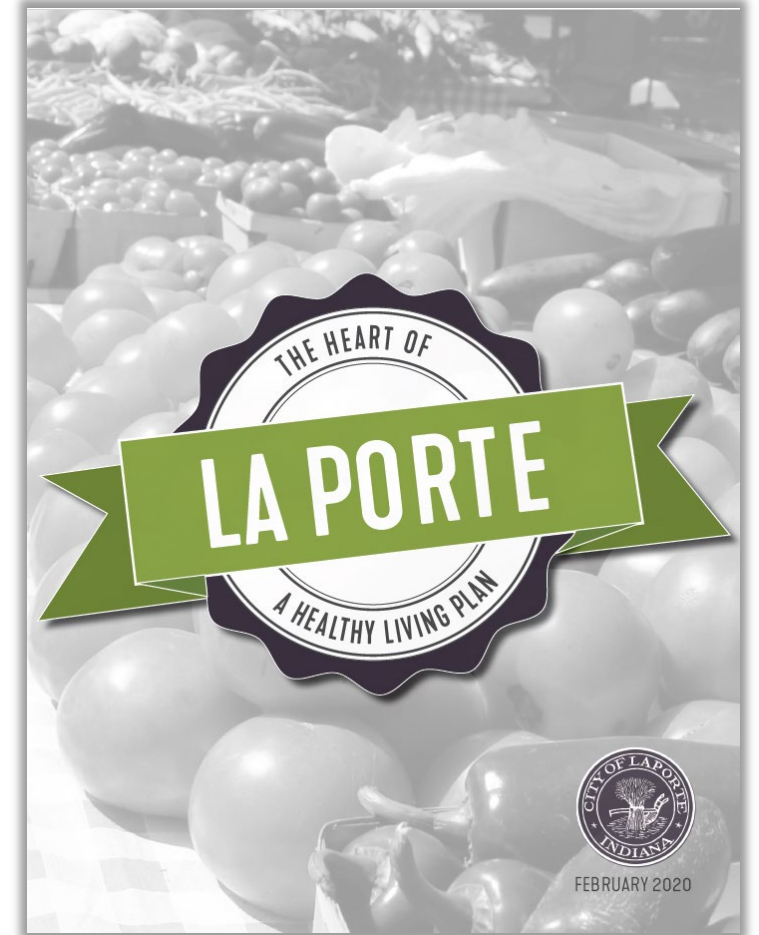
2023

2023 *Trails, Greenways, and Blueways Master Plan*



Heart of La Porte – A Health Living Plan

- Despite the City having physical attributes that support a healthy population and encourage healthy lifestyles **La Porte residents are some of the unhealthiest people** in Indiana, according to Healthcare Foundation of La Porte
- The **Heart of La Porte** plan intends to **make La Porte one of Indiana's top 10 healthiest communities**
- Presents an **economic development approach** to future investment
- **Implies a need for land use and transportation** planning to implement recommendations fully
- **Thorough public engagement** process



La Porte Housing Strategy

- A strategic plan that **documents the challenges in housing development** and provider capacity; **outlines new housing production targets** to pursue
- Stakeholder interviews **reveal housing needs, anecdotes, and popular beliefs** about the local residential market (purchase and rental) and real estate trends
- Strategy articulates that the **City is considered “affordable,”** but housing options for quality rentals and starter **homes are limited** for low- and moderate-income HHs, **reasons** include:
 1. **Competitive market** for buyers
 2. Fewer listings, existing homes are not turning over, and **owners are staying in their homes longer** because options to downsize (and to a lesser extent to upsize) are limited
 3. **Investors** with large portfolios purchase single-family homes in low and moderate price ranges that would typically be owner-occupied and **turn them into rentals**
 4. More affluent households are occupying housing affordable to lower income levels which applies **downward pressure on the housing market**

La Porte Housing Strategy (cont.)

- Strategy recommends a **target production of 1,650 to 1,850 new housing units** for a variety of incomes and household types to **meet existing housing needs**:
 1. Need 750 minimum new rental housing units (450-550 market rate, 300+ affordable)
 2. Need 900 to 1,000 for-sale housing units
 3. Target home price less than \$400,000
 4. Greatest need is \$150,000 to \$250,000
 5. 35-50% share should be targeted to active seniors
- Strategy mentions the need for affordable housing to be near services, amenities, and transportation

Trails, Greenways, and Blueways Master Plan

- Addresses the **active transportation planning component** identified in the Heart of La Porte Healthy Living Plan
- Outlines the **framework for a non-motorized transportation network** with focus on connectivity, safety, recreation, education, and complete streets
- Public engagement process and walking/ biking **audits revealed preferred and avoided routes**, destinations and barriers, **evaluated facility conditions**, and **explored activity habits** and reasons/ motivations for facility usage
- **Includes recommended infrastructure projects and maps for transportation improvements** to achieve network completion and maximize regional connectivity, **policy and programming guidance**

