

Village Seeks Community Ideas to Improve Somerset

New Community Action Plan Needs Your Help

Somerset residents, businesses, commercial property owners, and community organizations, are invited to develop new recommendations and opportunities that will shape the future of Somerset for the next 10 to 20 years.

Interested persons are encouraged to participate on the new community-driven committee where their ideas become the basis for Somerset's new Community Action Plan (CAP), in conjunction with the Village's Comprehensive Plan update activities. This new action plan will assist the Village and community in developing wide-spread relationships working together to implement the resulting CAP recommendations.

Details of the 7-8 month CAP process will be presented at a Community Kickoff event in September. Event date, location and activities will be announced soon. The evening will outline the formation of the CAP committee engagement process, goals, and subcommittee activities. All interested persons are encouraged to attend and learn how their interests, knowledge and talents will contribute to the long-term success of Somerset. The evening concludes with committee participation sign-up.

The goal of the CAP process is to form new and wide-spread community relationships that take ownership of the resulting recommendations and projects. It is through these expanding relationships and resources that the CAP becomes a strategic 'action plan' turning ideas into reality.

"Somerset residents and businesses are presented with a rare opportunity to have our community lead the process encouraging development of their own ideas and recommendations we can include in our Comprehensive Plan and work on together towards implementation. We feel it is important that this is a community-driven plan," adds Bob Gunther, Public Works/Economic Development Director, Village of Somerset.

In addition to generating recommendations supporting the success of Somerset, the committee will seek innovative ways to cultivate community resources to play a major role in supporting and potentially funding their emerging community projects.

The CAP project team includes Village staff, consultant Todd Streeter, principal, Community Collaboration and MSA Professional Services, Inc. staff.

“The greatest resource any community has exists in its own back yard. Through this process, we hope residents, businesses, community leaders, and organizations, will join together to invest in the resulting CAP projects, ensuring Somerset continues on an exciting and successful path for decades to come,” adds Streeter.

For additional information and committee participation opportunities, interested participants are encouraged attend the Community Kickoff gathering or contact Bob Gunther, (715) 247-3395, or email: rgunther@vil.somerset.wi.us.

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