



# Kane County's record of blazing the trail...



Kane County was the 1<sup>st</sup> County in Illinois to:

- Create a Development Department consolidating zoning, planning and development operations
- Adopt an Historic Preservation Plan and Ordinance
- Establish a “rustic roads” preservation program
- Combine land-use and transportation planning
- Protect farms by ordinance from nuisance lawsuits
- Develop a stormwater ordinance to protect farmland
- Establish a Farmland Protection Program
- Assist farmers in maintaining productive soils with a farmland drainage assistance program
- Address the challenge of future water supply
- Adopt an electrical vehicle infrastructure ordinance which was singled out as a “national model”
- Adopt a county-based action plan to reverse childhood obesity
- Integrate health planning with land-use and transportation planning



*“Health is created in communities. Kane County’s focus on planning for health in the places we live, work and play is exemplary and shows the way we should be moving forward to prevent disease and achieve wellness.”*

*- Dr. Richard Jackson, Author, Designing Healthy Communities*



# Quality of Kane

*Healthy People, Healthy Living, Healthy Communities  
- It's about Quality of Life*



## Kane County 2040 Plan

Promise and opportunities  
for future generations.



*Leading edge of planning in the region and is the most effective way to plan for the future.*

- Randy Blankenhorn, Executive Director, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

## A Rich History in Cooperative Planning



Creative, cutting-edge planning does not happen in a vacuum. It isn't the product of any one person, community or county. At the core of Kane County's planning successes over more than 50 years is the quality and long-term dedication of planning staffs, public officials and private citizens. The lasting, cooperative planning relationships that Kane County has forged are testament to the importance we place on an open, continuing discussion about the future.

As Kane County's Draft 2040 Plan moves to adoption, and development of its implementation strategies begins to take place, I'm encouraged by the broad-based support and participation that it has attracted in the form of grant funds and technical assistance and I'm proud that, as Kane County arrives at this crossroads, is viewed as a leader in the long-term plan for the entire Chicago region.

Over the past 50 years Kane County has recorded numerous "firsts" and earned an array of awards for its far-sighted planning policies and shared commitment to do things better. In rejecting the notion that wall-to-wall development is inevitable, and by embracing cutting-edge planning policies, Kane County finds itself at the forefront of issues such as stormwater management, farmland protection, open space, historic preservation and the need to sustain a clean, plentiful water supply. With the Draft 2040 Plan we have integrated health, land use and transportation planning – another first – into what we have dubbed the Quality of Kane campaign.

Broad-based, continuing participation in implementing the goals of the Plan is absolutely critical if we are to maintain an exceptional Kane County going forward, with Healthy People, Healthy Living and Healthy Communities.

- Karen McConaughay, Kane County Board Chair



## Kane County's 2040 Vision: *Healthy People, Healthy Living, Healthy Communities*

Kane County's 2040 Plan proposes vision and direction for the Kane County Board and the County's 30 municipalities to plan for growth and to improve our quality of life. The 2040 Plan is part of the *Quality of Kane* initiative. It responds to the challenges that need to be addressed and integrates the planning efforts for land use, transportation and health. It reaffirms the County's commitment to *Healthy People, Healthy Living and Healthy Communities* so that Kane County can continue to hold promise and opportunities for our future generations.

Most importantly, the plan focuses on strengthening the prized qualities of Kane County, and the shared values commonly held by our residents, so that we can build upon them and continue to improve the Quality of Kane:

- Dedication toward maintaining valuable open space
- Exceptional health care, hospitals, and community planning that promotes healthy living
- Strong neighborhoods to raise families with quality jobs and schools
- A Countywide trail network that is second to none providing opportunities for exercise, transportation and community connectivity
- A County where residents enjoy the beautiful Fox River as part of their community – for biking, walking trails, and other recreational activities such as fishing and kayaking
- A sense of history from the preserved downtowns along the Fox River to the historic neighborhoods, small towns and rustic roads
- Livable cities with community design and urban spaces that provide a sense of place and pride – where people visit and gather
- A viable economy with thriving business and a competitive workforce
- Proximity and accessibility to the world class City of Chicago
- A network of forest preserves capturing the scenic quality of the Midwest
- Local opportunities for personal growth, higher education and first-class scientific exploration
- A strong focus on future needs and environmental issues such as water supply planning
- A County where every resident can enjoy the benefits of the gently rolling countryside, fertile farmland and local fresh farm products
- A county with a growing and diverse population; where residents, its most valued asset, are proud to call Kane County "home"

Continue to partner with Kane County on our vision for 2040.  
Visit us online at: [www.qualityofkane.org](http://www.qualityofkane.org)