

Saline Sustainability Circle Regional Planning Guidelines

Executive Summary

The Saline Sustainability Circle was formed by a group of community leaders concerned about community issues and growth pressure in the Saline area. The team consists of representatives and interested citizens from the City of Saline; the Townships of Lodi, Pittsfield, Saline, and York; Saline Area Schools; the Saline Area Chamber of Commerce; and the Washtenaw County Department of Planning and Environment.

The overall objective in creating these Regional Planning Guidelines is to provide a resource to local communities in the region to help achieve a better environment in which to live, work, and play. These guidelines are intended to help individual units of government keep the needs of the region and their neighbors in mind when making decisions.

The guidelines were developed through a process that considered many planning tools. Community involvement was obtained through an initial Visioning Gala and subsequent monthly meetings of interested parties.

Regional Goals and Strategies were identified for the following issues:

- Transportation
- Growth Management
- Natural Resources Protection
- Quality of Life

Transportation was identified as the number one regional concern by the participants in the community visioning session. Recommendations for improving transportation include Access Management, Traffic Shed Approach to determine land use densities, and Public Transportation.

Growth Management for the region is obtained by coordinating land use planning across jurisdictional boundaries. Recommendations are included for various land use classifications.

Protection of Natural Resources was identified as a key contributor to the character of the community. Some of the important natural features of the region are identified. Strategies for protecting and using these natural resources are included. Recommendations are included for Stormwater Management, Groundwater Protection, Wetlands Protection, Conservation Easements, and Greenbelts.

Quality of Life issues included strategies to help preserve cultural assets, support seniors and teens, support community involvement, encourage recreational opportunities, preserve community spirit, and promote and support public safety.