

## Route 30 Corridor



The Route 30 Corridor serves as a major entrance into Plainfield, providing direct access from Interstate 55 and the City of Joliet. This corridor extends from Interstate 55 and Plainfield's boundary with Joliet in a northwesterly direction to Illinois Route 59.

Much of the development in this corridor is older, and was developed prior to modern development procedures such as site plan review. Consequently, although the corridor is home to some important businesses and community resources the overall character of the corridor is in need of enhancement.

### *Existing Land Use*

The existing land use pattern is as follows:

- Although in Joliet, the Clark truck stop is the dominant use in the southern part of the corridor.
- The Lily Cache Creek and associated flood plain cut across the corridor.
- Various commercial businesses are found between the DuPage River and Renwick Road including two auto dealerships, auto repair facilities, and several small office buildings.
- The Lake Renwick Rookery and Forest Preserve occupies the single largest frontage in the corridor on the north side of Renwick Road and east side of Route 30.
- The new District 202 Bonnie McBeth Learning Center and Administrative Center, along with Plainfield Cemetery lie across the street from the Rookery.
- Businesses in the central portion of the corridor includes the Pioneer Lanes Bowling Alley.
- The northern end of the corridor is comprised of a series of older homes fronting onto Route 30, with a gas station/ minimart located at the intersection of Route 30 and Route 59.

### *Goals*

The following goals have been established to guide future development efforts within the Route 30 corridor:

**Enhanced Roadway Capacity** - Traffic is already heavy, and will likely continue to increase. Congestion is particularly bad at the intersection with Route 59.

**Improve Corridor Appearance** - This corridor should be viewed as an important front door to Plainfield. Both public and private improvements are needed to enhance the appearance of the corridor.

**Develop Remaining Vacant Property for Business Use** - A number of sites within the corridor are vacant and would provide good opportunities for infill development. Focus should be on attracting a small business park near Interstate 55.

### ***Transportation Issues***

This roadway is planned as a major arterial roadway by both the Village of Plainfield and Will County. In 1999, the Average Daily Traffic Volume along Route 30 was approximately 20,000 vehicles each day. These conditions place significant strains on the existing two-lane roadway, suggesting improvements are needed in the near future.

- Several recommendations are provided below to enhance capacity and safety.
- Work with property owners to reduce curb cuts and provide cross-access between adjacent properties.
- Improve capacity at the intersection of Route 30 and Lily Cache Road through addition of turn lanes and enhanced roadway geometrics.
- Improve the Lily Cache Bridge to provide capacity for at least four lanes of traffic and a bike path.
- Widen the entire roadway between Renwick Road and Route 30 to 4 lanes with an urban cross section and appropriate turn lanes.
- Improve the intersection of Route 30 and Route 59 by restricting Commercial Street to right turn in and right turn out only, and widening Route 59 south of its intersection with Route 30.

### ***Appearance and Function Issues***

This area serves as the southern entrance to Plainfield. Physical improvements in this section of the corridor will help welcome residents and visitors to the community and create a positive impression of the Village.

Photographs and accompanying commentary suggest potential improvements. Many of these improvements are applicable throughout the corridor and are not specific to the location illustrated in the photograph.



- Attractive entry sign, but enhanced setting needed to compete with adjacent billboard and other corridor features.



- Proliferation of billboards and temporary signs is distracting – review and strengthening of sign regulations recommended.
- Shrubs and other landscape features needed in parkways – review private and enhance private landscape requirements.



- Road widening and other capacity enhancements needed to accommodate 21,000 plus vehicles per day.
- Shared driveways and cross access between properties are needed to improve traffic flow and safety.



- Roadway improvements should incorporate drainage enhancements.
- Auto dealerships provide strong anchor businesses for the corridor.



- Planned bridge enhancements should accommodate additional traffic lanes, bike/pedestrian access, and attractive design features that provide a sense of arrival into Plainfield.



- Wide parkway section south of Renwick Road provides opportunity for enhanced landscaping, including shade and ornamental trees and grasses for reduced maintenance.



- Façade renovation would enhance appearance of many existing businesses.
- Curb openings should be reduced to better direct traffic flow.
- Landscape enhancements are needed to screen parking areas.



- Pioneer Lanes provides a good example of parking lot landscaping.



- New Copley Park provides needed access to Lake Renwick Preserve.
- Vegetation along Route 30 should be pruned/thinned to provide framed views into Preserve.



- Transitional area into downtown needs attention to streetscape enhancements such as lighting, possible relocation of overhead lines, crosswalks, etc.



- Route 30/59 intersection needs enhanced façade and landscaping to create a better community image at this key location.
- Funeral Home at the northeast corner of the intersection provides a positive image/example.

### ***Development and Redevelopment Sites***

Eight potential development and redevelopment sites have been identified within the Route 30 Corridor. Each site has been identified on the Route 30 Corridor Plan Map. Information on these sites, along with potential uses, are included in the chart below.

AREA	EXISTING USE	SITE SIZE (ACRES)	NUMBER OF PARCELS	POTENTIAL USES
1	Vacant	1.8	1	Office (20,000 S.F.), General Commercial
2	Home/Business	2.1	2	Forest Preserve Expansion
3	Vacant	11.6	8	Community Recreation, Restaurant, Office (125,000 S.F.)
4	Vacant	3.8	1	Retail (41,000 S.F.), General Commercial, Office
5	Vacant	7.5	1	Office (82,000 S.F.), Light Industry, Retail, General Commercial
6	Vacant	41.7	1	Office (450,000 S.F.), Light Industry (635,000 S.F.), General Commercial
7	Vacant	3.5	1	Fast Food Restaurant (30,000 S.F.), Retail (38,000 S.F.), Office
8	Home/Business	0.9	1	Fast Food Restaurant (2,000 S.F.), Retail