

THE TOSA COMMON: TYING UP THE LOOSE ENDS AND PREPARING A ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE



TOSA VILLAGE VISION STATEMENT

*“Living, working, and exploring
within the Village of Wauwatosa
is an experience marked by a feeling
of history, community and comfort.”*

FIRST PRINCIPLES:

- Authenticity: *Maintain the historic and cultural character through the use of local materials and architectural idiom. All designs and redesigns must have craftsmanship and sustainable quality as program elements.*
- Walkability: *Pedestrians must feel that walking is safe, pleasurable and connects to key historical, natural and commercial destinations.*
- Connectivity: *Link the Heart of the Village with ambient neighborhoods and amenities.*
- Natural Beauty: *Rediscover, celebrate and integrate the natural landscape and its native plants and animals.*
- Sustainability: *Maintain a healthy environment and an open and diverse society. A vital business district is necessary to support continuing and improving the experience of residents and visitors of all generations.*

HISTORY: INDIGENOUS ELEMENTS

Wild rice

River rocks

Grasses

Hardwoods

Swamp Oaks, Elms, Cherry, Ash

Burning

Clear water

Woodland

Limestone / Fieldstone

Native plants / colors / forms

Cream City brick

Iron

How do we honor this past?

HISTORY: LORE

Native American people

Yankees- Hart, Stickney, Wesson

German Immigrants (1860's)- Lutherans and Roman Catholics / German

Triangle-

Underground Railroad

Bell Rope story

Civic Groups- Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Masonic, Womans Club

Farmers- Grist Mill, General Store, Railroad

Women's Rights Movement

How do we honor this past?

HISTORY: PLACES

Environment

Menomonee River, Schoonmaker Reef, Hart Park / Neshnabek Park

Architecture

Churches and Steeples, Victorian and Craftsman style architecture, The Highlands, Church Street National Historic District, Hart Mills/The Little Red Store, Dewey Center, Mother Goose House, LeFeber Building, Street names

Transportation

Railroad, Trolley, Plank Road, Harmonie Bridge/Harwood Road view

The Common

How do we honor this past?

THE ROOT COMMON PROGRAM and STORY

PROGRAM

Welcoming point

Gathering Place / Respite / Furnishings / Picnic
Farmers' Market

Simplicity of design to accentuate surrounding businesses
Common Ground for general public non commercial uses

Local materials

Canopy of trees

Respect existing pedestrian traffic

STORY / HISTORICAL INTERPRETATION

The Bell Rope

The Hart / Root friendship

Connecting the past and future, and all generations, races and ethnicities

NEXT STEPS

ROOT COMMON DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

Prepare Design and Construction documents based upon the Vision, the First Principles, Program and Stories
Develop Team, Resources and Timeline

VILLAGE MASTER PLANNING

Master Plan Scoping & Strategizing Session

Identify strategies needed for the Master Planning process based on the Vision and the First Principles:

Identify goals & end products

Identify expertise needed

Identify stakeholders & Steering Committee

Collect available resources & data

Develop timeline