

COMMUNITY VISION • 2019



VISION STATEMENT

Holland's Waterfront --

... a distinctive and welcoming complement to our greater downtown weaving together water, land, and people in a continuous thread of beauty and vibrancy an adaptable and evolving place that celebrates a harmony of urban and natural uses, and strengthens our economic and environmental sustainability a walkable year-round destination where water views abound, green spaces offer quiet respite and active play, and connected public access to the water is enhanced.

This is the character of the waterfront we seek.





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GUIDING PRINCIPLES

01 Foster Community **ACCESSIBILITY** - To, From and Along the Water

- Create a continuous, publicly accessible waterfront through an easement along the water's edge.
- Connect the waterfront to downtown and the neighborhoods beyond.
- Accommodate safe and convenient multi-modal access and parking.
- Leverage on and extend the snowmelt system where appropriate.

03 Encourage **DIVERSITY** of Use, Users and Developers

- Seek opportunities for mixed uses and diverse, year-round programming.
- Welcome diverse waterfront users, including residents and visitors of different ages abilities and incomes.
- Facilitate multiple developers to develop specific projects over time.

02 Pursue Environmental, Economic and Equitable SUSTAINABILITY

- Protect our water resources and ecological environments.
- Be good financial stewards and ensure both short and long-term economic feasibility of waterfront functions, including retaining infrastructure and access for Great Lakes shipping.
- Strengthen community through inclusive, transparent community engagement practices and collaborative partnerships, appropriately guided by municipal leadership and planning best practices.
- Create a long-term vision that enables incremental development and is adaptable over time.

04 CELEBRATE the Water(front)

- Enhance the waterfront character by integrating attractive, high quality, well-programmed, and well-maintained unifying elements in both public and private waterfront projects.
- Use the waterfront as a lens to increase the public understanding of Holland's past, present, and future.
- Orient new development, redevelopment and community planning efforts towards taking advantage of viewscapes afforded by the waterfront.
- Encourage waterfront recreation and engagement with the water.



The Waterfront Holland Community Vision was adopted by the City Council of Holland, Michigan, on January 8, 2020. For more information and detailed reports, please visit www.waterfrontholland.org or contact the Department of Community and Neighborhood Services.