



KALKASKA CONNECTS!

A downtown renaissance

Local Trends

- -9% between 2000-2010
- Fewer school-aged children and those age 65+
- 84% have high school diploma, 8% have college degree
- County & Village income below state and region
- Economic Indicators
 - ▣ Education, health/social services biggest industry, manufacturing second



County & Regional Economic Trends

- Economic Transition - knowledge and skill-based employment is growing
- Decline in manufacturing, accommodation and food services
- Recreation revenues/employment below state average

Identifying Issues & Opportunities



- Economy is biggest concern
- Transportation
 - ▣ Pedestrian safety – 131 & 72
 - ▣ Trails and Pathways
- Need for business/government coordination
- Housing quality improvements
- Industrial development
- Commercial corridors
- Community image/sense of place

Identifying Local Assets

- Location
- Infrastructure
- Quality of life assets
 - ▣ Natural resources, recreation, festivals, housing, transportation, hospital, trails, Boardman River, small town atmosphere
- Downtown



Identifying Local Assets - Downtown

- Historic character
- Pedestrian orientation
- Building design
- Streetscapes
- Parking lot
- Traffic issues
- Wireless Access
- Need viable and diverse businesses



Identify Goals & Strategies

- Create environment that supports business and job creation
- Build quality of life – recreation, sense of place, economic vitality, natural resources
- Trail/pathway development along Boardman River
- Zoning revisions - form-based, use flexibility
- Safe walking/biking
- Placemaking



Why Placemaking?

- Downtown Priorities
 - ▣ Encourage viable and diverse businesses
 - ▣ Address traffic issues
 - ▣ Enhance historic character
 - ▣ Build community engagement and pride
 - ▣ Bring activity to downtown



Placemaking Goals: Redevelopment



- Keep and improve public/quasi-public uses in the downtown
- Develop and implement a targeted redevelopment strategy for publicly owned space and vacant/underutilized properties in downtown

Placemaking Goals: Parking Lot

- Consider streetscape treatments, building improvements, wayfinding elements, and other placemaking strategies for the parking lot and alley
- Address aesthetics, traffic flow, and access issues in municipal parking lot



Placemaking Goals: Wayfinding

- Encourage and support downtown revitalization and beautification efforts, including streetscape enhancements, wayfinding, and façade improvements
- Develop consistent recreation- or natural resources-oriented signage, streetscape amenities, or public art installments that serve as a brand for the village

Placemaking Goals: Events & Festivals



- Support and promote community events and arts opportunities
- Make downtown a focal point of events and festivals

Implementing the Plan

- Village leadership
- Downtown Development Authority
- Citizens for Kaskaska
- Grants
 - ▣ Rotary
 - ▣ Community Growth Grants (Grand Vision)

DDA and Downtown Business

- Market study completed
- M-72 landscaping and streetscape activities
- Logo contest
- Signage, banners, entry monuments



Events & Festivals

- Kalkaska Harvest Market
- Outdoor movies begin June 9
- August 11 Street Fair
 - ▣ Showcase local businesses, crafters, entertainment
- October 13 Antique Snowmobile Show and Swap
- Community garden



Kalkaska Connects

- Redevelopment strategy for (east) 300 block of downtown





PARKING

COMMERCIAL

**NEW
DEVELOPMENT**

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Image USDA Farm Service Agency

Imagery Date: 5/31/2005

44°43'51.79" N 85°10'38.04" W elev 1031 ft



- Existing historic Depot

- Trout fountain

- Multi-family residential

- Movie theater

- Brewpub

- Retail

