



Memorandum

To: Alderman Janessa Wilkins, Committee Chairman;
Members of the Planning and Development Committee

From: Colin Belle, Comprehensive Planning and Design Coordinator

Subject: Approval of the 2040 Future Land Use Map

Date: March 12, 2026

Staff from the Community & Economic Development Department recommends the approval of the proposed 2040 City of Rockford Future Land Use Plan.

The 2040 Future Land Use Plan refines the City's long-term development vision and aligns land use policy with the adopted 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Prepared by City staff using GIS analysis and current planning data, the update is intended to ensure that future land-use decisions support sustainable growth, economic opportunity, and continued improvements to quality of life.

The revised maps provide an updated and accurate foundation for guiding development review, zoning considerations, and infrastructure investment. Collectively, they support:

- Efficient growth within existing development corridors and infrastructure
- A diverse housing supply and balanced neighborhood development
- Business expansion and long-term economic resilience
- Preservation of community character and natural resources

This update establishes a clear, data-driven framework to guide coordinated land-use decisions, infrastructure planning, and future growth.

Property owners may continue their existing uses consistent with current zoning regulations. Any future change in zoning, land use entitlement, or development proposal would require a separate public review process in accordance with City procedures and state law.

The City will update the Future Land Use Map regularly and as needed to ensure it remains responsive to evolving conditions and planning objectives.