

## **City of Howell Vision and Guiding Values**

### **DRAFT for Comment**

Vision: The City of Howell will be a prosperous, diverse, family-oriented community that is the center of activity for the community. The City will be home to a full range of housing, business, and recreational opportunities in a safe environment. Our events create a unique sense of place that attracts people to Howell. We continually look to the future and adjust to our changing environment while building on the foundation built by generations before us. We strive to be a welcoming home town for our current residents, future residents and visitors.

#### Guiding Values:

- Howell is an evolving, welcoming city for all.
  - We recognize the need to grow and adapt while keeping our friendly, small town character.
  - As the environment around us changes, we will work to manage that change in a way that enhances our core identity.
  - Our sense of place is based on our strong neighborhoods, walkability, local businesses, community events and historic character.
  - We provide an environment for a wide range of quality housing opportunities for all ages, abilities and income levels.
- Howell is the center of activity and culture.
  - We promote special events, activities and opportunities for public participation that create a unique sense of place.
  - We offer a vibrant downtown with year-round activities for all ages, including a wide variety of shopping and dining options.
  - Our walkable environment, recreational opportunities, natural amenities, and variety of community groups contribute to our quality of life.
  - Our unique events bring visitors to Howell.
  - Our special events are part of our core identity and bring the community together.
- The City thrives when we all work together
  - The City becomes a better place when residents, neighbors, the business community and the City work together. City government will be open, transparent and accessible. In turn, those who live, work and play here participate in making Howell a better place.
  - We take a pragmatic approach to collaborating with public and private agencies serving the Howell community with the goal of enhancing our quality of life.
- Howell has a rich history and promising future.
  - Our City is rich in history, particularly in our historic downtown buildings and neighborhoods.
  - While we grow and adapt to our changing environment, we stay true to what is authentically Howell.
- The City is a safe place.

- We are a City of neighborhoods where people look out for each other.
- We take holistic approach to safety, making it a priority in our decisions regarding development, transportation, recreation, public health, infrastructure, housing and our codes.
- We strive to create a clean, safe, and inviting physical environment
- Quality, efficient municipal services are a part of our identity.
  - Our core services, including high quality infrastructure; maintaining a clean, safe environment; easy access to emergency services and public safety contribute significantly to the high quality of life in the City; they set us apart in the region.
  - We constantly strive to maintain and enhance these services within our fiscal means.
  - Our departments are efficient and responsive, with a deep commitment to public health and safety

Mission: The mission of the City of Howell Government is to enhance quality of life by providing efficient, effective and fiscally-sound municipal services that are responsive to the needs of its residents, businesses and visitors.