



The following is an updated vision and guiding principles, based on feedback received from planning commissioners at the October 11th meeting. A **vision statement** is an aspirational description of what a community would like to be over the next 25-30 years. It is intended to guide current and future goals and policies. **Guiding Principles** serve to inform actions that will be undertaken by a community over the next 25-30 years

VISION STATEMENT

In 2045, Beaver Island will be a thriving community; economically diverse, socially vibrant, and environmentally rich. High-quality ecosystems will be preserved and managed in a sustainable way, but also leveraged to support ecotourism and economic development. Historic and cultural resources will help define the Island; telling stories of its rich past, and attracting visitors and new residents. There will be a diversity of affordable housing options that meet the needs of all residents and pave the way for changing demographics. A connected network of bike paths, sidewalks, and paddling routes will link recreational assets, community services, and residences.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Preserve the **island** character, scenic vistas, water quality, and high quality natural ecosystems.
2. Support a comprehensive and collaborative marketing strategy both on and off the island.
3. Invest in technology and public infrastructure that positions Beaver Island to attract young families, retirees, and new business ventures.
4. Ensure that high quality healthcare is available to all island residents and visitors at an affordable price.
5. Expand educational opportunities offered within the public school system and to the broader community.
6. Grow the local economy by capitalizing on tourism opportunities, expanding recreation into the shoulder season, and leveraging existing capital to grow businesses.
7. **Enhance collaboration and foster open dialogue between the two townships, and between local government and community members. In addition, learn from other communities grappling with similar issues and continue conversations with fellow Great Lakes islands.**