

Chapter 2: The Dundas Vision

Dundas will be a place that embraces the Cannon River and the town's rich history and rural roots while still allowing controlled growth and modern shopping and industrial opportunities. Dundas will change, but the pace of change will be slow enough to retain the rural character of the area. Dundas and surrounding communities will work closely together to preserve the quality of life they enjoy and respond to the challenges of the future.

Dundas will preserve and revitalize its downtown by bringing additional activities to Railway Street. Land between the old mill ruins and Railway Street will be converted to public open space activities. The space may include a small milling museum and interpretive center in conjunction with the preserved ruins. A new riverwalk will be developed.

Land to the north of Hester Street at the terminus of Railway Street could include a new civic complex containing a City hall, community center, and library. Visitors to the civic complex will be able to watch canoes on the river and folks using the new island park. The Mill Towns Trail system connecting Faribault, Northfield, Cannon Falls, and Red Wing will pass right through the civic center. Visitors will also be able to eat at the restaurants on Dundas' main street including outdoor dining on sidewalks and on seasonal right-of-way access.

Dundas will preserve the rest of the Cannon River valley in the City so that it can be appreciated by future generations. Parks will be developed along the river and the Dundas Dukes will continue to win ball games in its scenic ballpark on the banks of the Cannon River. Wildlife in the area will still be able to come to the river too.

The residents of Dundas will gain many new neighbors as land is developed for a variety of housing types on the edge of town and on redevelopment sites within the City.

The neighborhoods in town will be improved by stricter enforcement of housing maintenance codes. The unsightly clutter will disappear. Industrial areas will also be improved so they are a positive contribution to the community.

The effort to reduce clutter and improve the visual appeal in the community will also extend to the Highway 3 corridor. New businesses will be a credit to the community.

Truck traffic on County Highway 1 will be rerouted through the industrial area on the south edge of the City to remove noise and congestion associated with truck traffic through downtown and residential areas. Highway 3 will be four lanes between Dundas and Faribault per Mn/DOT's District 6 Long Range Plan. This expansion is partially funded between 2015 and 2023. However, speed limits will be controlled and traffic controls added at key intersections in Dundas to accommodate the shopping and local traffic that uses the highway. Decker Avenue will be paved and become the primary link between Dundas and Highway 19.

Dundas will strive to retain its small town character. It will be a community of good people with rich family traditions.