



# GALESBURG ON TRACK

A Heart & Soul Community

## Value Statements



1. We value and take pride in Galesburg's **history** and cultural **heritage**, which includes diversity, faith organizations, Knox College, the writer Carl Sandburg, and local architecture. The railroad is a dominant part of our heritage and a source of economic opportunity and community history. The railroad offers jobs, an Amtrak station, a forthcoming historic museum, the BNSF switch yards and Railroad Days.



2. We value a welcoming **community** that reflects a **small-town feel**. Our town is **resilient** and provides a place where friends and family come together in times of need and where **volunteers** and **philanthropic** organizations fund projects to support our community and make it prosper.



3. We value a healthy **business climate**. This includes good jobs and sustainable **businesses** in a supportive and growing **entrepreneurial** climate. Part of our business appeal includes the small-town charm of our downtown shops, farmers' market, restaurants, convenient shopping, and entertainment venues. We are also proud of our **agricultural** opportunities borne of rich soil that support farms and gardens.



4. We value **education**, which includes many **opportunities** available through quality schools and local colleges that are supported by contemporary facilities, service-oriented libraries, and good teachers. We value academic programs like Gale Scholars and Galesburg Promise along with athletic teams and extra-curricular experiences that add to the learning environment and make us proud.



5. We value our town's **image** including the appeal of Galesburg to our residents and visitors. This image is expressed by the **aesthetics** of a clean, well-maintained city where residents voice and act with a **positive self-image**, can-do spirit, and sense of **togetherness**. We value Galesburg's future and **young people** from various backgrounds who will shape its destiny as a place to proudly call home.



**6.** We value our town's **services** and **amenities**, which include **social services** and **faith organizations** that provide opportunities for support and sustaining connections. We value our proactive **government** and **public safety** departments that provide city services and—through community involvement—make families, homes, neighborhoods, and public places safe and friendly. We value the community's **infrastructure**. We value **housing** and an affordable cost of living that allows us to raise strong families. Our high-quality **healthcare** includes choice of hospitals, qualified medical staff, and facilities. Our **parks, lakes, and open spaces** are used for recreational opportunities including, but not limited to, organized sports, playgrounds, fishing, boating, walking, bike trails, and camping.



**7.** We value **easy accessibility** to shopping, dining, health care, the arts, employment and recreation. We value a comprehensive transportation system with city bus service, free parking, new overpasses and underpasses, low traffic, and passenger rail service.



**8.** We value being an **active community** and having **things to do** such as annual festivals and **events**, a wide range of athletic opportunities, and a thriving downtown. We value the efforts of our people to support the rich culture of its **arts, theater, and music** scenes.