

SMART GROWTH FOR CORAL TOWNSHIP *(VISION STATEMENT)*

Coral Township faces the challenge of maintaining its rural character while planning for future growth that aligns with its agricultural and natural landscape. Preserving prime farmland and environmentally sensitive areas is crucial.

The Village of Union is the primary urban center, with residential and commercial growth encouraged nearby. The Route 20 corridor is designated for commercial development due to its available infrastructure.

Coral Township is committed to rural infill, focusing on developing platted lots within existing subdivisions that are not yet fully built out. This strategy helps preserve agricultural land. Additionally, we highly favor conservation design principles that incorporate open space into developments.

The Township supports renewable energy sources, with several solar farms already approved. However, careful consideration of site selection and the number of solar farms is important to maintain the Township's rural character. Involving all stakeholders, including residents, landowners, and elected officials, is crucial due to the potential impact on both residents and the environment.

Lastly, Coral Township hosts the Kishwaukee River Watershed and a sensitive aquifer recharge area (SARA), both vital for water resources and wildlife. The SARA is crucial for long-term water sustainability in McHenry County. Despite conservation guidelines, development in these areas must be limited to avoid negative impacts. Future growth must be smart to protect these valuable resources.