



Tower Lakes

<https://www.regionalhousingsolutions.org/municipality/tower-lakes>

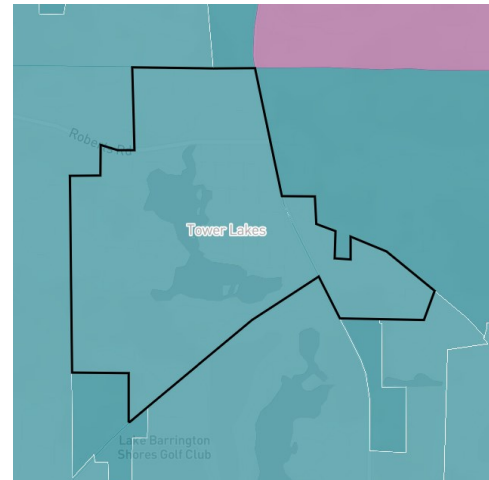
Submarkets (What is a submarket?)

■ **100% of Tower Lakes is in Submarket 8.**

Suburban 1980-99 housing stock, high/middle income, suburban, aging

Areas with a similar combination of these submarkets:

Algonquin	Indian Head Park	Peotone
Antioch	Island Lake	Plano
Batavia	Itasca	Port Barrington
Beecher	Lake Barrington	Prairie Grove
Braceville	Lake Villa	Ringwood
Bull Valley	Lake Zurich	Sandwich
Burlington	Lemont	Sleepy Hollow
Burr Ridge	Lily Lake	Spring Grove
Campton Hills	Lindenhurst	St. Charles
Cary	Mettawa	Symerton
Channahon	Millbrook	Third Lake
East Dundee	Millington	Trout Valley
Elwood	Mokena	Vernon Hills
Fox River Grove	Monee	Wadsworth
Godley	Oakwood Hills	Warrenville
Grayslake	Old Mill Creek	West Dundee
Green Oaks	Olympia Fields	Winfield
Greenwood	Orland Hills	Wonder Lake
Gurnee	Orland Park	
Indian Creek	Palos Park	



Want to find housing data for your community? Download *U.S. Census housing data* and use the *Homes for a Changing Region data guide* to analyze it.

Issues + strategies

Most communities have multiple submarkets within their boundaries. The issues facing each submarket as well as strategies tailored to address them are outlined below.

	Submarkets with primary focus
Issue	8
Accessibility and visitability	✓

Submarket 8

Improving accessibility and visitability can prepare communities for a growing senior population. A growing senior population raises concerns about whether submarket 8 communities are prepared as accessible and visitable places to live. As new housing is built or current housing is rehabilitated, attention should be given to make sure that housing will address the present and future needs of this population. Some submarket 8 neighborhoods were built without important pedestrian infrastructure, like sidewalks and crosswalks. Figuring out how to retrofit such infrastructure into existing neighborhoods would also improve accessibility, as well as position communities to remain attractive as market preferences change.

Strategies

Age-friendly neighborhoods

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Communities should create local amenities that will appeal to people of all ages, from young families to seniors. A community can best meet its social and economic demands by having a healthy balance of people from all age groups. Nevertheless, municipalities need to plan for amenities that can attract and retain residents. Neighborhood parks, public spaces and community art spaces such as [Karcher Artspace Lofts](#) in Waukegan and those created by [Batavia](#), are only a few of the central elements of an age-friendly community. For seniors that want to live independently in the community, having access to services is vital. Municipalities should think about the development of senior housing/services complexes strategically, and ideally should locate them near transit stations and commercial areas. Such developments can be helped by specific transit oriented development ordinances like [Chicago's](#), which allow increased residential density and reduced parking requirements. [Sunset Woods](#) in Highland Park and [Thomas Place](#) in Glenview are great examples of developments that came to fruition because of strong collaboration between developers and municipalities. The Northwest Suburban Housing Collaborative's Handyman Program is an innovative senior service program that connects seniors to low-cost maintenance services and helps them to live independently in their homes. [Read more about age-friendly policies.](#)

Value of housing planning

Municipalities should invest in long-term planning to identify policies and tools that prepare its housing stock for the future.

Municipalities should invest in long-term planning to identify policies and tools that prepare its housing stock for the future. Via planning tools like the [Homes for a Changing Region Toolkit](#), municipalities can better understand current and future housing needs in their communities and develop strategies to move toward a more "balanced" housing stock. Around the region, communities have been drawing on the principles of accessibility and sustainability to create healthier and safer housing. Plainfield's experience in housing development is instructive as well as its [density bonus program](#), which provides

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<p>an increase in residential density above a base level if a given development meets one or more of 15 village objectives. Community “buy in” regarding balanced housing is more likely to occur if a community creates a housing committee similar to those created by Highland Park and Lake Forest. Municipalities that are interested in incorporating greater accessibility/visitability standards into new development or rehab of existing single-family homes should review Bolingbrook’s accessibility/visitability requirements.</p>	
Attracting younger families	✔
<p>Submarket 8</p> <p><u>Communities have an opportunity to attract younger families by striking the right balance between affordable homes and amenities.</u> Younger families generally need affordable starter home price points in order to become new homebuyers. Additionally, providing amenities such as walkable neighborhoods, parks, and open spaces can help meet the preferences of younger generations, such as increased interest in biking and walking and more compact home environments.</p> <p>Strategies</p> <p>Age-friendly neighborhoods Communities should create local amenities that will appeal to people of all ages, from young families to seniors. <u>Communities should create local amenities that will appeal to people of all ages, from young families to seniors.</u> A community can best meet its social and economic demands by having a healthy balance of people from all age groups. Nevertheless, municipalities need to plan for amenities that can attract and retain residents. Neighborhood parks, public spaces and community art spaces such as Karcher Artspace Lofts in Waukegan and those created by Batavia, are only a few of the central elements of an age-friendly community. Learn more about age-friendly neighborhood strategies.</p> <p>Placemaking and marketing strategies Communities should develop strategies to create greater neighborhood identity in order to encourage additional private sector investment. <u>Communities should develop strategies to create greater neighborhood identity in order to encourage additional private sector investment.</u> Municipalities can make a concerted effort to enhance neighborhood character in Submarket 8 through strategic public investments such as neighborhood branding/signage, streetlights, sidewalks, etc. As noted before, adding pedestrian infrastructure to these existing neighborhoods will be particularly valuable. Public sector investment will likely signal to the private market a commitment to an area and make it more attractive for additional resources. Learn more about placemaking strategies.</p> <p>Repurpose and redevelop property Communities should evaluate existing zoning and take stock of existing infrastructure when making decisions about redevelopment. <u>Communities should evaluate existing zoning and take stock of existing infrastructure when making decisions about redevelopment.</u> Overdeveloped and vacant retail areas can be rezoned for mixed-use developments or housing. When adding multi-family units near transit, municipalities should consider</p>	

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<p>lower parking requirements to relieve congestion and encourage walkability. Mundelein’s Downtown Design Guidelines, Glenview’s Downtown Development Code, and Libertyville’s payment in lieu of required parking policy are all great examples of how to create a more efficient built environment.</p>	
Need for more diverse housing options	✔
<p>Submarket 8</p> <p><i>The housing stock of communities should accommodate households of various sizes and income levels.</i></p> <p>Housing stock that is uniform in both its size and type can result in missed opportunities for communities to attract new residents and jobs. While most of the submarket’s housing stock consists of newer single-family homes, communities have an opportunity to increase the diversification of their housing stock through new development or retrofitting existing stock. An increase in the mix of housing types can appeal to a wider buyer pool and allow submarket 8 communities to remain competitive as market conditions change.</p> <p>Strategies</p> <p>Value of housing planning</p> <p>Municipalities should invest in long-term planning to identify policies and tools that prepare its housing stock for the future.</p> <p><i>Municipalities should invest in long-term planning to identify policies and tools that prepare its housing stock for the future.</i> Via planning tools like the Homes for a Changing Region Toolkit, municipalities can better understand current and future housing needs in their communities and develop strategies to move toward a more “balanced” housing stock. Around the region, communities have been drawing on the principles of accessibility and sustainability to create healthier and safer housing. Plainfield’s experience in housing development is instructive as well as its density bonus program, which provides an increase in residential density above a base level if a given development meets one or more of 15 village objectives. Community “buy in” regarding balanced housing is more likely to occur if a community creates a housing committee similar to those created by Highland Park and Lake Forest. Municipalities that are interested in incorporating greater accessibility/visitability standards into new development or rehab of existing single-family homes should review Bolingbrook’s accessibility/visitability requirements.</p>	

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