

2026–2027 Village Council Goals					
Core Service Provision: The Village’s primary focus is delivering essential services, including utilities, public safety, planning and zoning, finance and administration, parks and recreation, and youth services, that sustain the daily quality of life in Yellow Springs. Council goals build on these services to guide priorities beyond day-to-day operations.					
Focus Area	Goal	Outcome(s)	Projected Timeline	Responsible Party	Priority Level
Housing Strategy & Development	Develop a clear, data-driven housing strategy.	- Establishes a housing mission statement, including a definition of “affordable housing” - Set housing targets using updated Bowen Report data (e.g., units by AMI levels) - Aligns zoning, development regulations, and housing priorities	Initial framework by end of 2026; ongoing refinement into 2027	Village Council (to be discussed at the Housing Retreat – June 2026)	HIGH
	Advance priority Village-led housing initiatives.	- Complete appraisal of Village-owned properties to inform development strategy - Conduct community outreach prior to issuing Glass Farm RFP - Issue RFP for Glass Farm redevelopment - Compile and centralize existing Glass Farm documentation	Glass Farm RFP by April 2027 or sooner	Village Council; Village Staff	
Organizational Leadership, Capacity, & How We Work	Develop and run a thoughtful strategic planning process and complete a Council and staff supported plan.	Creation of a scope and RFP. Complete plan based on agreed upon timeline.		President DeVore Leonard; Village Manager; Assistant Village Manager	HIGH
	Align capacity and goals for current and proposed projects to assure manageable workload and improve outcomes.	- Improve staff work/life balance - Maintain focus on mutually agreed-upon goals - Increase percentage of completed goals as compared to 2024–2025	Ongoing	Village Council; Village Manager	
Financial Sustainability & Stewardship	Identify and implement cost-cutting strategies while tracking progress on a return to a balanced budget by 2028.	A clear path, communicated during the budget process, toward a balanced budget.	Ongoing	Village Manager; Finance Director; Finance Committee	HIGH – MEDIUM
	Deepen our shared understanding of the budget and clearly identify what is considered a need.	Better-informed budgeting decisions aligned with realistic short- and long-term financial expectations.	Ongoing	Village Manager; Finance Director; Finance Committee	
Housing Policy & Regulatory Tools	Strengthen policies and tools for rental housing management.	Host Council Town Hall to determine next steps for rental code enforcement and a rental unit registry.	2026	Councilmember Pearce	MEDIUM – HIGH
	Prioritize environmental sustainability and energy efficiency into housing-related decisions.	- Consider amendment to zoning code offering incentives for high-energy efficiency, minimal environmental impact - Request white paper from Environmental Commission on ZERH and conservation development approaches		Councilmember Brown; Planning Commission; Environmental Commission; Planning & Zoning Director	
	Evaluate zoning code vis-à-vis housing goals.	Identify barriers and opportunities within the zoning code that impact housing development and affordability.		Planning & Zoning Director	
	Evaluate and advance Lawson Place Apartments as a Village-owned housing asset.	Review Lawson Place pro forma to assess financial performance, capital needs, and long-term housing role.	2026	Village Council; Village Manager; Finance Director	MEDIUM
	Explore policy tools to encourage property utilization and reduce vacancies.	Research and presentation on vacant property fee options.		Councilmember Semere	
Economic Development & Downtown Vitality	Clarify role of Village in economic development, including expectations for intergovernmental communication to support long-term planning.	- Discuss and then document our role - Communicate that role to relevant stakeholders - Align related staffing and budget allocations		Councilmember Semere; YSDC Representatives; Village Staff	MEDIUM – LOW
	Consider policies affecting pop-ups, markets, and micro-enterprises.	Learning about these policies in process of determining applicability to Village economic development goals.		Councilmembers Semere and Brown; Planning & Zoning Director; Solicitor; Chamber of Commerce	
	Review CRA and TIF policies and consider legislation if needed.	Update CRA and TIF policies.		President DeVore Leonard; Village Manager; Solicitor	
Community Engagement & Communications	Develop a crisis plan and a Village-wide communications plan to improve community information and engagement.	Coordinated, consistent approach that improves awareness, engagement, and access to information.	Crisis plan: Summer 2026; Communications plan: End of 2026	Assistant Village Manager; Digital Media Manager; Solicitor	LOW
Municipal Infrastructure, Utilities, & Public Spaces	Assess Village sidewalk policy.	Fund mandate for Village-owned sidewalks or return ownership to property owners.	By August 2026	Village Manager; Solicitor	
	Revisit existing parking plans.	Evaluation of Village parking needs and, if necessary, develop plan of action for new parking.	By August 2026	Village Manager	