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**Madison Street Planning Effort Seeking Residents' Visions**

A community planning effort to help create a plan for the future redevelopment of Madison Street from Austin Boulevard to Harlem Avenue moves into high gear with a *visioning forum*, scheduled for 7 p.m., Wed. Dec. 14, in the Medical Arts Building gymnasium at Rush-Oak Park Hospital, 500 S. Maple Ave.

Conclusions drawn from the initial public forum held last week will be presented, including opinions voiced about development opportunities and challenges, the corridor's image and the role of Madison Street in the community. Participants will then be invited to share their visions through a series of interactive exercises regarding land uses, business mixes, transportation and traffic, potential redevelopment sites and the ideal size and types of new developments.

Wisconsin-based Vandewalle & Associates is leading the project, which is expected to take about six months to complete. A steering committee of citizen representatives from several Village commissions, including the Historic Preservation Commission, Plan Commission, Community Design Commission, Environmental & Energy Advisory commission, Universal Access Commission and Transportation Commission, as well as Madison Street businesses and property owners and neighborhood residents, will be working closely with the consultant throughout the process.

Additional public forums are planned, and the community will be kept up to date through a special project website accessible at [www.oak-park.us](http://www.oak-park.us). For more information call 358.5425 or email [comsvcs@oak-park.us](mailto:comsvcs@oak-park.us).

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