

**What is an Urban Renewal Area?** An urban renewal area is a tool that municipalities can use to address economic development or slum and blight. Certain areas of a city may be considered underused or have conditions of unemployment and a shortage of safe, clean housing. Other areas may be considered slum or blighted. The designation of a certain area as an urban renewal area does not necessarily mean that every property within the geographical area is considered underused or slum or blighted, however it does mean that those conditions exist in various locations throughout the area. An urban renewal area generally enables a city to undertake a number of activities to use public funds to incent development, purchase land, initiate public improvements to attract or upgrade industrial and commercial activities, to provide or assist in providing clean and safe housing.

**What is an Urban Renewal Plan?** An urban renewal plan is the blueprint for activities planned in a certain urban renewal area.

**What is the purpose of the proposed or draft Suburban Farms Urban Renewal Plan?** The purpose of the Suburban Farms Urban Renewal Area is to improve the livability of the Suburban Farms Urban Renewal Area by creating more attractive and appealing housing opportunities and positively influencing the economic development in the area.

**Where did the name come from?** The name for this urban renewal area came from the original plat name for this area.

**Has the City used Urban Renewal in the past?** The City of Windsor Heights has used Urban Renewal successfully and effectively in the past. The commercial developments of Walmart, Sam's Club, Hy-Vee and the Town Center project were all made possible through Urban Renewal Areas. The development of these commercial areas has contributed substantially to the City's tax base and the better mix of commercial and residential development helps keeps the City's tax levy rate stable.

**If you would like additional information on the urban renewal plan or any of the City's activities, please contact Marketa George Oliver, City Administrator at 279-3662. Thank you.**