

what's the
big idea?

what do
you want?

how do we
get there?

where do
we start?

do you have
a plan?

our future. here.

A VISION FOR CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

big.small. all.

champaign county.

PREPARED BY

BIG. SMALL. ALL. CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

ACP – VISIONING AND PLANNING, LTD.

March 2007

collaborative
prosperous
sustainable
supportive
enriching



our future. here.



our future. here.

March 29, 2007

This document describes a vision of what Champaign County can be if we work together to build a shared future; **our future. here.** The vision is the result of a vitally important civic initiative, **big.small.all. Champaign County**, which brought together people of all ages, backgrounds and professions from throughout the County to construct a vision based on shared values and mutual understanding.

Over 1,100 people came together in a series of dialogues over the last 16 months to define community objectives and action strategies to achieve them. These objectives address a broad array of concerns from community identity, to groundwater supply.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to the hundreds of our fellow citizens who worked diligently in the monthly meetings of the Community Assembly to create the vision, and to the scores of volunteers and the many supporting organizations that made the project possible.

our future. here. defines twelve broad goals and 35 priority objectives. Importantly, an action strategy is included for each objective. What matters about this document are not the words it contains but the actions we undertake to give them life. As a community vision, **our future. here.** is not an agenda for any particular institution but a call to each of us to take action. We all must take responsibility for realizing the vision through business, civic and government initiatives.

big.small.all. Champaign County will continue to support these initiatives and can link you with them. Please consider as you review the vision which parts of it you care most about and how you could contribute to realizing them. Together we can make a prosperous, secure and beautiful future; **our future. here.**

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Acknowledgements

Project Leadership

Sponsors Council

The Sponsors Council has provided overall strategic direction and fiscal supervision of the **big.small.all.** project. It is comprised of the chief elected or executive officer of major funding organizations, and other community leaders acting in a personal capacity.

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The design and implementation of the project is overseen by the Steering Committee. **big.small.all.** would not have been possible without the substantial commitment of time and effort made by the volunteer members of the Committee.

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The Project Coordination Committee provided invaluable day to day guidance to the staff. The members of the Committee did double duty in a volunteer capacity making major contributions throughout the project.

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big.small.all. employed two consultants during the process, ACP-Visioning and Planning, Ltd. which designed and guided the process and Surface51 which developed the project identity, designed the website, and implemented the publicity and public relations efforts. The project was also assisted by students enrolled in the High Tech Edge program. The project was managed and implemented by staff of the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission.

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Facilitators worked with small groups during the Community Dialogues, the Stakeholders Workshop, and at the Community Choices Workshop. They volunteered not only the time spent at meetings but additional time in training. Many facilitated more than one meeting. [big.small.all.](#) would not have been possible without their contributions.

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Topical Stakeholder Committee Members carefully deliberated on ideas and issues that surfaced through the Community Dialogues and Stakeholders Workshop to craft the vision. These committees worked diligently throughout the Spring and Summer of 2006 on tasks that were often difficult and sometimes contentious. Their work constructed the basic content of the vision that became **our future. here.**

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University of Illinois - Assembly Hall, Beckman Institute, Levis Faculty Center
Urbana Civic Center
Urbana Middle School
Urbana Park District - Phillips Recreation Center and Anita Purves Nature Center



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[big.small.all.](#) Can Help
 Actions Not Intentions

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