

City of Bridgeport  
Plan of Conservation and Development  
Stakeholder Interview  
Medical Care Organizations  
July 26, 2018

**Attendees:**

- Lud Spinelli – Optimus Healthcare
- Carolyn Salsgiver – Bridgeport Hospital
- Nancy Hamson – Bridgeport Hospital
- Dianne Auger – St. Vincent’s Medical Center

**The statements below are a summary of the opinions expressed by those interviewed. The statements do not necessarily reflect City policy or objective facts.**

The City of Bridgeport has two large hospitals, Bridgeport Hospital and St. Vincent, which serve as two of the largest employers in Bridgeport and are a key part of the City’s economy as they serve the larger region as well. While the hospitals themselves do not generate tax revenue for the city, they serve the city and the region and employees of both institutions contribute to the economy by living, shopping and eating in Bridgeport. However, the hospitals face unique challenges because some residents are uninsured and undocumented and cannot seek out preventative measures, seeking costly emergency care instead. People are unaware of many of the services that are available, and it is difficult to retain talented doctors because of the high living costs of the area. The hospitals hope to have a better relationship with the city, working in harmony to engage nonprofits and organizations that can fill in the gaps and provide to those who cannot afford full medical services.

**Vision for Bridgeport:**

- Should take the “Blue Zone” approach to Bridgeport.
- Look at the Action Plan at the back of the Community Needs Assessment

