Section 17-13-0711 of the Chicago Zoning Code requires the Chicago Plan Commission (CPC) to monitor the effectiveness of all Planned Manufacturing Districts (PMDs) and make recommendations as needed.

A comprehensive review of PMD viability is critical to ensuring that North Branch land uses and zoning regulations align with the current area activity and anticipated future development.

Planned Manufacturing District Purposes:

1. Foster the city's industrial base;
2. Maintain the city's diversified economy for the general welfare of its citizens;
3. Strengthen existing manufacturing areas that are suitable in size, location and character and which the City Council deems may benefit from designation as a PMD;
4. Encourage industrial investment, modernization, and expansion by providing for stable and predictable industrial environments; and
5. Help plan and direct programs and initiatives to promote growth and development of the city's industrial employment base.

PMD LAND USE
Between 1990 and 2016, PMD land uses have exponentially shifted away from heavy industry.

- Manufacturing uses decreased from 75% to 27%
- Commercial uses increased from 3% to 14%
- Transportation uses increased from 12% to 38%

PMD EMPLOYMENT
Between 2002 and 2014, North Branch employment shifted further away from manufacturing toward commercial and other uses:

- Manufacturing jobs decreased 37%
- Business Services increased 210%
- FIRE, Health, Ed increased 56%
- Leisure & Hospitality increased 53%

PMD BUSINESSES
Between 1990 and 2015, a number of businesses have closed or relocated to other industrial Corridors, including:

- Case (Transportation/Trade; 1990-1991)
- Blackhawk Steel (Manufacturing; 1990-1991)
- A. Finkl & Sons (Manufacturing; 1990-1991)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau