

HARVARD 2015 GROWTH PLAN

Draft submitted
by **Smith Engineering Consultants, Inc.**,
to the **City of Harvard**
on November 7, 1994

-- For Committee and Plan Commission Review only --

*The City Council has not adopted this plan; nor has the
Plan Commission or other appointed body recommended
it for adoption.*

Chapter.....**I**

Population & Growth

The projection of population growth for small cities is at best an educated guess. The effort is difficult even under steady circumstances, such as where a community is under continuing suburban growth pressures common to a region. The effort is especially difficult where the community is anticipating a new major industrial or commercial siting. The City of Harvard is in precisely this position following the announcement by Motorola of its intent to construct an industrial facility which will employ 4,000 to 8,000 people.

Importance of Projections

An accurate projection of population is necessary for the City to design infrastructure. The sizing of water, sewer and road facilities are all determined by reference to population. The long lead times required to bring the facilities on-line, typically five to eight years, mean that cities must anticipate demand and not wait until it has occurred. The process of making projections may also be useful in helping us verbalize the factors that shape growth locally, and in learning how we can manipulate those factors.

Methodology Used

The methodology for preparing projections consisted of two steps. First, we estimated the population arising both directly and indirectly from the location of the new major facility. Next, we estimated the population change without the major facility.

Major Facility Impact Models

In order to project the effect of a major facility siting, the Center for Governmental Studies at Northeastern Illinois University (NIU), under contract with the McHenry County Economic Development Commission, refined an input-output econometric model developed by the Regional