
APPENDIX D: POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

INTRODUCTION

Growth and development patterns do not occur in a vacuum. Over time, federal, state and local policies have directed the amount and location of development. State transportation policies and state land use legislation such as NR121, farmland preservation, natural resource protection and real estate tax codes have influenced growth and settlement. Local attitudes towards growth and accompanying zoning legislation, transportation and utility investments and tax and land subsidies also influence the type and amount of growth and development which occurs in each community.

Policies which impact growth and development have been developed over time by different agencies and different levels of government with varying missions and objectives. The resulting policies and programs are sometimes complementary and sometimes contradictory. It is the interaction of these various policies and market influences that determine actual growth patterns. Although many current federal and state policies and subsidies still encourage expansion, other policies such as the 14 land use goals developed by the state also encourage communities to accommodate growth in perhaps a more efficient manner than they have in the past. The adopted comprehensive plan legislation encourages communities to develop comprehensive plans, but provides communities with the opportunity to determine their own growth patterns. As a result, the type of development which will occur in the future is still open to debate.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Regional and County Policies

Regional Policies

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Milestone #3, Goals, Strategies, and a Plan for Action, Year 2030 Regional Comprehensive Plan “Shaping the 21st Century”. East Central adopted Milestone #3, its regional comprehensive plan in April 2008. The plan serves as an advisory document for counties and communities within the region. As part of this planning process, several key issues were identified:

- How do we plan for continued population growth, which will result in an increase in demand for services and land consumption in the region?
- How do we promote the recognition of the relationship between the density of settlement and amount and location of land consumed for housing, commercial, and industrial uses and the costs of services?
- How do we ensure the economic vitality of the agricultural and forestry sectors in the context of a decrease in the amount of open space?

-
- How do we address the conflicts that will arise given that the majority of future growth is expected to occur in the urban counties, which is where most of the region's more productive farmland is located? More specifically, how will we address the impact on the farm economy?
 - How do we ensure that an increase in urbanization has a positive impact on rural communities?
 - Urban counties in the region currently have greater social and economic capital, more government support due to a larger tax base, and greater access to nonprofit services than rural counties. Current trends show the educational and income gap between urban counties and rural counties widening. How do we plan to decrease this gap and promote a healthy, vibrant economy and quality of life for all residents throughout the region?

The core goal of the Issues and Opportunities section is:

- To promote communities that are better places to live. That is, communities that are economically prosperous, have homes at an affordable price, respect the countryside, enjoy well designed and accessible living and working environments, and maintain a distinct sense of place and community.

The intent of this goal is to minimize the negative effects of sprawl development and provide a cost-effective variety of services and infrastructure that will meet the changing demographics of the overall population.

Federal, State and Regional Programs

This section includes information on federal, state and regional programs which were used to develop this chapter. Other programs which influence growth and may impact future socio-economic conditions will be described in pertinent chapters within this appendix.

Federal Programs

United States Department of Commerce

Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA). The Economics and Statistics Administration collects, disseminates and analyzes broad and targeted socio-economic data. It also develops domestic and international economic policy. One of the primary bureaus within the ESA is the U.S. Census Bureau. The majority of information analyzed in this chapter was collected and disseminated by the Census Bureau, which is the foremost data source for economic statistics and demographic information on the population of the United States. The Census Bureau conducts periodic surveys and decennial censuses that are used by federal, state, and local officials and by private stakeholders to make important policy decisions. The Bureau produces a variety of publications and special reports regarding the current and changing socio-economic conditions within the United States. It develops national, state and county level projections and also provides official measures of electronic commerce (e-commerce) and evaluates how this technology will affect future economic activity.

State Programs

Wisconsin State Data Center (WSDC)

The Wisconsin State Data Center is a cooperative venture between the U.S. Bureau of the Census, DOA, the Applied Population Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and 35 data center affiliates throughout the state.¹ The U.S. Bureau of the Census provides census publications, tapes, maps and other materials to the WSDC. In exchange, organizations within WSDC function as information and training resources. DOA is the lead data center and the Applied Population Laboratory functions as the coordinating agency throughout the state. Local data center affiliates, such as East Central, work more closely with communities and individuals within their region.

Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA)

Demographic Services Center. The Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) Demographic Services Center is responsible for developing annual population estimates for all counties and all minor civil divisions (MCD) in the state. They develop annual estimates of the voting age population by MCD and population estimates by zip code. The Demographic Services Center also produces annual county level housing unit and household estimates. The Demographic Services Center also develops population projections by age and sex for all Wisconsin counties, and produces population projections of total population for all municipalities.

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Applied Population Laboratory (APL). The Applied Population Laboratory is located with the Department of Rural Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. They conduct socio-economic research, give presentations and publish reports and chartbooks. They will contract to do specific studies or school district projections. APL also functions as the coordinating agency for the WSDC and the lead agency for the Wisconsin Business/Industry Data Center (BIDC).

Regional Programs

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Planning for our Future Program. This program element promotes, builds awareness and coordinates the implementation of the Commission's *Year 2030 Regional Comprehensive Plan* and locally adopted comprehensive plans. It also includes the Commission's Health and Planning work element. Examples of work under this program element include: population information and projections, comprehensive planning and implementation assistance.

- **State Data Center Affiliate.** East Central receives census materials and Demographic Service Center publications from DOA, plus additional information and reports from other state agencies. This information is maintained within its library, used for planning purposes and published within East Central reports. Information and technical

¹ Wisconsin Department of Administration, <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Intergovernmental-Relations/Demographic-Services-Center/US-Census-State-Data-Centers/>. Accessed 10/15/15.

assistance regarding this data is also provided to local governments, agencies, businesses and the public upon request.

- **Official Regional Population Projections and Household Growth.** While DOA provides base level population projections for the state, local conditions such as zoning regulations, land-locked communities, and local decisions regarding land use development can influence the accuracy of these base line projections. As a result, East Central has the authority to produce official population projections for the region. East Central also estimates future household growth.

LAND USE

State, Regional, County, and Local Policies

State Policies

Zoning Ordinances

Wisconsin State Statutes 66.1001 requires that if a local governmental unit enacts or amends any of the following ordinances, the ordinance shall be consistent with that local governmental unit's comprehensive plan:

- Official mapping ordinances enacted or amended under Wisconsin State Statutes 62.23 (6);
- Local subdivision ordinances enacted or amended under Wisconsin State Statutes 236.45 or 236.46;
- County zoning ordinances enacted or amended under Wisconsin State Statutes 59.69.
- City or village zoning ordinances enacted or amended under Wisconsin State Statutes 62.23 (7).
- Town zoning ordinances enacted or amended under Wisconsin State Statutes 60.61 or 60.62.
- Shorelands or wetlands in shorelands zoning ordinances enacted or amended under Wisconsin State Statutes 59.692, 61.351 or 62.231.

Regional Policies

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Milestone #3, Goals, Strategies, and a Plan for Action, Year 2030 Regional Comprehensive Plan “Shaping the 21st Century”. East Central adopted Milestone #3, its regional comprehensive plan in April 2008. The plan serves as an advisory document for counties and communities within the region. As part of this planning effort, East Central developed a vision for land use, which states:

East Central will promote land use patterns which foster healthy communities, preserve individual community identity, enhance personal mobility, reduce the cost of services and protect our natural environment.

The Milestone #3 report contains four land use “plan guidelines” which contain goals, strategies, and recommendations for achieving this vision. “Plan guidelines” include: LU-1: Land

Consumption and Development, LU-2: Regional and Community Character, LU-3: Balancing Community Interests and Property Rights, and LU-4: Regional and Local Sustainability.

County Policies

Winnebago County

A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Winnebago County: 2016-2035. The *Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan* was adopted in 2016. The plan's land use element provides the following goals:

- Small, compact development that integrates public spaces into development.
- Large areas with low population density and small areas with high population density.
- Development and protection of nature-based recreational resources.
- Provision of housing for all populations.
- Effective transportation system, including continued development of public transit, automobiles, and pedestrian and bicycle modes.
- Vital infrastructure and services balanced with reasonable and equitable taxes.
- Education of public and private landowner on environmental stewardship and conservation ethic.
- Effective protection of natural resources.
- The rural, agricultural area maintained in large, contiguous tracts.
- Healthy urban centers with diversified uses.
- Historical preservation of unique community characteristics.
- Maintenance and enhancement of a quality education system.
- Owner rights balanced with community rights.
- Promote communication and respect between diverse populations.

County Code of Ordinances. The Winnebago County Code of Ordinances regulates private on-site wastewater treatment systems, land divisions, land uses and other ordinances that may be relevant to the Town. Several chapters that relate to land use are summarized below.

Chapter 18 - Subdivisions and Platting. The ordinance facilitates division of larger parcels of land into smaller parcels of land through two methods: Certified Survey Maps (CSMs) and Plats. Certified Survey Maps create up to four new lots, parcels or tracts from the parent parcel. Plats are required for land subdivisions that create five or more lots created from the parent parcel. The ordinance also contains design standards for streets, blocks, setbacks and utility easements.

Chapter 20 – Non-Metallic Mining. The purpose of this chapter is to establish a local program to ensure the effective reclamation of nonmetallic mining sites on which nonmetallic mining takes place in Winnebago County.

Chapter 26 – Floodplain Zoning Code. This chapter is intended to regulate floodplain development to protect life, health and property; minimize expenditures of public funds for flood control projects; minimize rescue and relief efforts undertaken at the expense of the taxpayers; minimize business interruptions and other economic disruptions; minimize damage to public facilities in the floodplain; minimize the occurrence of future flood blight areas in the floodplain; discourage the victimization of unwary land and homebuyers; prevent increases in flood heights

that could increase flood damage and result in conflicts between property owners; and discourage development in a floodplain if there is any practicable alternative to locate the activity, use or structure outside of the floodplain.

Chapter 27 – Shoreland Zoning Code. Shorelands are defined as lands which are: 1,000 feet from the ordinary high water elevation mark of navigable lakes, ponds, or flowages; or 300 feet from the ordinary high water elevation mark of navigable rivers or streams. If the landward side of the floodplain exceeds either of these two measurements, this is used as the zoning standard. Wetlands means those areas where water is at, near or above the land surface long enough to be capable of supporting aquatic or hydrophytic vegetation and which have soils indicative of wet conditions. This ordinance controls the lot size, building setbacks, landfills, agricultural uses, alteration of surface vegetation, sewage disposal, filling, grading, lagoons, and other uses which may be detrimental to this area.

Winnebago County Farmland Preservation Plan, adopted March 13, 2012. The Winnebago County Farmland Preservation Plan is included in the *Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan*. The plan is intended to guide local efforts related to farmland protection and the promotion of the agricultural sector in Winnebago County during the 15-year period from 2012 through 2026. The goals of the plan are: (1) Protect farmland in Winnebago County, while balancing landowner rights and community benefit; (2) Maintain a strong agricultural economy; (3) Support agriculture-related businesses and support systems; and (4) Promote urban agriculture. The intent of the plan is to meet the requirements of chapter 91 of the Wisconsin State Statutes for Farmland Preservation and help maintain sustainable agriculture economies in the county as well provide an informational base to assist decision makers in the preservation of farmland and agriculture related development within the county.

2011-2020 Winnebago County Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan. Appendix C, 2016- 2020 Work Plan was updated in 2016. The LWRM) addresses soil and water quality concerns using local, state and federal programs. The goal of the *Winnebago County Land and Water Resource Management Plan* is to restore, improve, and protect the ecological diversity and quality and promote the beneficial uses of the land, water, and related resources found throughout the county.

Winnebago County Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan, 2013 -2017. The *Winnebago County Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan*, adopted in 2013, describes existing conditions, projects future growth, and offers recommendations to guide the future growth and development of recreational facilities in Winnebago County. The plan identifies three goals: (1) Provide throughout the county a planned system of parks and recreation areas that will enable county residents and visitors alike to participate in and enjoy a diversity of recreational activities; (2) Preserve scarce and valuable resources important to the ecological, sociological, and economic life of the county; and (3) To encourage continued involvement of county residents when planning for parks and recreational development.

Local Policies

Town of Algoma

Code of Ordinances. The Town's Code of Ordinances regulates land divisions and land uses.

Official Map. The Town of Algoma has an official map. An official map is intended to implement a master plan for a city, village or town. The master plan helps direct development by designating areas for streets, highways, parkways, floodplains, and other pertinent land uses. Official maps direct development away from sensitive areas which are designated for future public use.

State and Regional Programs

State Programs

Land and Water Resource Management Planning Program (LWRM). The land and water resource management planning program (LWRM) was established in 1997 by Wisconsin Act 27 and further developed by Wisconsin Act 9 in 1999.² Although both Acts are designed to reduce non-point pollution, Wisconsin Act 27 regulates rural and agricultural sources while Wisconsin Act 9 regulates urban sources. Counties are required to develop LWRM plans and revise these plans every five years. Only counties with DATCP approved LWRM plans are eligible to receive annual funding through the soil and water resource management grant program. Plans must be developed through a locally led process that identifies local needs and priorities and describes how a county will implement runoff control standards for farms and urban areas. All LWRM plans must be approved by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection.

Regional Programs

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Community Development and Affordable Housing. This program element incorporates the Commission's ongoing efforts to help address regional land use and housing issues which have a strong relationship with the regional economic development strategy for the region. Examples of work under this program element relating to land use include: neighborhood planning, zoning ordinance assistance, urban/rural development strategies, downtown redevelopment, waterfront/riverfront planning, subdivision ordinance assistance, and historic preservation.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Regional and County Policies

Regional Policies

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Milestone #3, Goals, Strategies, and a Plan for Action, Year 2030 Regional Comprehensive Plan "Shaping the 21st Century". East Central adopted Milestone #3, its regional comprehensive plan in April 2008. The plan serves as an advisory document for

² Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. <http://datcp.wi.gov>

counties and communities within the region. As part of this planning effort, East Central developed a vision for economic development, which states:

The East Central Region has diversified employment opportunities including well paid knowledge based jobs. The regional economy benefits from advances in research and technology and supports entrepreneurialism and local business ownership. The region conducts collaborative economic development efforts across jurisdictional boundaries of governments, educational institutions, and other economic development entities. The preservation of natural resource amenities supports tourism opportunities, assists in attracting an educated workforce and enhances the quality of place for residents in the region.

The Milestone #3 report contains five economic development “plan guidelines”, which contain goals, strategies, and recommendations for achieving this vision. More Information is available at: <http://www.ecwrpc.org/programs/comprehensive-planning/>.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Report

The East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission annually creates a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) report, which evaluates local and regional population and economic activity. Economic development trends, opportunities, and needs are identified within the CEDS report. All communities, which are served by the Commission, are invited to identify future projects for economic development that the community would like to undertake. Those projects are included within the CEDS and may become eligible for federal funding through the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works grant program. Additional information can be found at <http://www.ecwrpc.org/programs/economic-development-housing/ceds/>.

County Policies

Winnebago County

A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Winnebago County: 2016-2035. The *Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan* was adopted in 2016. Economic development policies and programs in Winnebago County are to achieve maintenance and enhancement of a strong economic base through economic diversification, labor force education and development, and efficient movement of goods, services, and employees that also protects our quality environment and community atmosphere.

Federal, State, Regional, Local and Private Programs

Federal Programs

Occupation Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

- **Susan Harwood Training Grants Program.** These training grants are awarded to nonprofit organizations for training and education. They can also be used to develop training materials for employers and workers on the recognition, avoidance, and prevention of safety and health hazards in their workplaces. Grants fall into two categories; Target Topic Training and Training Materials Development. The Target

Topic Training grants are directed towards specific topics chosen by OSHA. Follow-up is required to determine the extent to which changes were made to eliminate hazards associated with the chosen topic. The Training Materials Development grants are specifically aimed at creating classroom quality training aids. Aids which are developed under the grant program must be ready for immediate self-study use in the workplace. Information regarding the Susan Harwood Training Grant Program can be found at <https://www.osha.gov/dte/sharwood/>.

United States Department of Labor

- The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) administers federal government job training and worker dislocation programs, federal grants to states for public employment service programs, and unemployment insurance benefits. These services are primarily provided through state and local workforce development systems. More information on grant opportunities can be found at: https://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

One Cleanup Program. The One Cleanup Program is EPA's vision for how different cleanup programs at all levels of government can work together to meet that goal and ensure that resources, activities, and results are effectively coordinated and communicated to the public. The EPA has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Wisconsin DNR to provide a single, consolidated approach to environmental cleanup. More information regarding the program can be found at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/brownfields/rrprogram.html>.

State Programs

There are many state programs that communities can consider utilizing to meet their stated goals and objectives. While not an all-inclusive list, there are several programs that the Town should consider and are addressed below.

Wisconsin Department of Administration

- **Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development (CDBG-ED).** CDBG-ED grant funds are awarded to local governments to assist businesses to create or retain jobs for individuals with low and moderate income. Additional information regarding the CDBG-ED program can be found at <http://doa.wi.gov/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Community-Development>.
- **CDBG Public Facilities Funds (CDBG-PF).** CDBG-PF funds help support infrastructure and facility projects for communities. Some examples of eligible projects include streets, drainage systems, water and sewer systems, sidewalks, and community centers. Additional information regarding the CDBG-PF program can be found at <http://doa.wi.gov/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Community-Development>.
- **CDBG Planning Funds.** CDBG Planning grant funds support community efforts to address improving community opportunities and vitality. Grants are limited to projects that, if implemented, are CDBG eligible activities. Additional information regarding the

CDBG Planning funds program can be found at <http://doa.wi.gov/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Community-Development>.

- **CDBG Public Facility - Economic Development (CDBG PF-ED).** CDBG PF-ED grants are awarded to local government for public infrastructure projects that support business expansion or retention. Additional information regarding the PF-ED funds program can be found at <http://doa.wi.gov/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Community-Development>.
- **CDBG Emergency Assistance (EAP).** The CDBG-EAP program assists communities to recover from a recent natural or manmade disaster. Eligible activities include repair of disaster related damage to dwellings, assistance to purchase replacement dwellings, and repair and restore public infrastructure and facilities. <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/CDBG-EAP>.
- **Venture Capital Investment Program.** The venture capital investment program was created as part of 2013 Wisconsin Act 41. This program will help create jobs and promote economic growth in Wisconsin by identifying new investors for Wisconsin, bringing new capital to Wisconsin investments, and cultivating Wisconsin entrepreneurship.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

- **Transportation Economic Assistance (TEA) Program.** The Transportation Economic Assistance (TEA) program provides 50% state grants to governing bodies, private businesses, and consortiums for road, rail, harbor and airport projects that help attract employers to Wisconsin, or encourage business and industry to remain and expand in the state. Additional information regarding the TEA program can be found at the following website: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/aid/tea.htm>.
- **State Infrastructure Bank Program.** This program is a revolving loan program that helps communities provides transportation infrastructure improvements to preserve, promote, and encourage economic development and/or to promote transportation efficiency, safety, and mobility. Loans obtained through SIB funding can be used in conjunction with other programs. Additional information regarding the State Infrastructure Bank Program can be found at <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-bus/local-gov/astnce-pgms/aid/sib.aspx>.
- **Freight Railroad Infrastructure Improvement Program.** This program awards loans to businesses or communities wishing to rehabilitate rail lines, advance economic development, connect an industry to the national railroad system, or to make improvements to enhance transportation efficiency, safety, and intermodal freight movement. Additional information for the Freight Railroad Infrastructure Improvement Program is available at <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-bus/local-gov/astnce-pgms/aid/default.aspx>.
- **Freight Railroad Preservation Program.** The Freight Railroad Preservation Program provides grants to communities to purchase abandoned rail lines in the effort to continue freight rail service, preserve the opportunity for future rail service, and to rehabilitate facilities, such as tracks and bridges, on publicly-owned rail lines. Additional information

for the Freight Railroad Infrastructure Improvement Program is available at <http://www.dot.state.wi.us/localgov/aid/frpp.htm>.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

- **Remediation and Redevelopment Program (RR).** The WDNR Remediation and Redevelopment program oversees the investigation and cleanup of environmentally contaminated sites (e.g. "brownfields." The program is comprehensive, streamlined, and aims to consolidate state and federal cleanups into one program. More information can be found at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Brownfields/>.

Regional Programs

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Economic Growth and Resiliency Program. The primary focus of this program element is to coordinate and promote the federal Economic Development Administration's (EDA's) programs with public and private stakeholders throughout the region. East Central also coordinates and communicates with State of Wisconsin economic development agencies and programs, including the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDA). Examples of work under this program element relating to economic development include: access to EDA grants for eligible projects, development of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS 5-year update) and subsequent CEDS annual reports, database of industrial parks, facilitation of joint economic development efforts, industrial site plans, industrial site data, ESRI Business Analyst Market Assessments/Profiles, EMSI Economic Impact Scenario Modeling, tourism development and marketing, local economic development strategy process/reports, global trade/exporting information, heritage tourism planning, maintain/update the "Farm Fresh Atlas" map, GDBG grant assistance/administration, business development grants, tourism grants and historic preservation grants. Additional information on some of the programs is provided below:

EMSI Developer. EMSI Developer is used by ECWRPC to provide economic data to requesting economic development entities or municipalities in the East Central WI Region as a service of WEDC. EMSI data is composed of comprehensive information on industries, occupations, demographics - as well as things like occupational skills, education, training, and even the names and size of companies in your region broken down by industry. EMSI links more than 90 data sources from federal sources like the Bureau of Labor Statistics to state and private sources. Additional information on EMSI Analyst is available at <http://www.ecwrpc.org/programs/economic-development-housing/economic-data-resources/>.

Global Trade Strategy. As part of the Economic Development Administration's Community Trade Adjustment Assistance Program, ECWRPC developed a study to increase exports for small to medium size companies in NE Wisconsin. This program assists communities impacted by trade with economic adjustment through the: (1) coordination of federal, state, and local resources; (2) creation of community-based development strategies; and (3) development and provision of programs that help communities adjust to trade impacts. The Community TAA Program is designed to provide a wide range of technical, planning, and infrastructure assistance and respond adaptively to pressing trade impact issues. Fond County was one of nine counties identified by the Department of Labor as being significantly impacted by global

trade. More information on the Global Trade Strategy is available at <http://www.ecwrpc.org/programs/economic-development-housing/economic-data-resources/>.

Initiative 41. Initiative 41 was formed as a result of large-scale layoffs by Oshkosh Corporation in 2012-2013 that impacted much of the East Central region. This initiative focuses on the I-41 corridor from Green Bay to Fond du Lac. It is designed to create greater economic diversity by increasing collaborative efforts between businesses, governments, community leaders, universities and technical colleges throughout the region. Additional information on Initiative 41 is available at <http://www.ecwrpc.org/programs/economic-development-housing/initiative-41/>.

Northeast Wisconsin Regional Economic Partnership

The combined Bay-Lake and East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission areas were named as Technology Zone by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce in 2002. The Northeast Wisconsin Regional Economic Partnership (NEWREP) Technology Zone has provided over \$5 million in tax credits to businesses certified by Commerce, based on a company's ability to create jobs and investment and to attract related businesses. The Technology Zone Program focuses primarily on businesses engaged in research, development, or manufacture of advanced products or those that are part of an economic cluster and knowledge-based businesses that utilize advanced technology production processes in more traditional manufacturing operations. Additional information can be found at [http://newnorthwww.web1.buildmyownsite.com/doing-business/new-regional-economic-partnership-\(newrep\)](http://newnorthwww.web1.buildmyownsite.com/doing-business/new-regional-economic-partnership-(newrep)).

New North, Inc.

New North's mission is "to harness and promote the region's resources, talents and creativity for the purposes of sustaining and growing our regional economy." New North maintains a number of regionally based economic development committees charged with addressing the following initiatives:

- Fostering regional collaboration
- Focusing on targeted growth opportunities
- Supporting an entrepreneurial climate
- Encouraging educational attainment
- Encouraging and embracing diverse talents
- Promoting the regional brand

For more information on the New North, visit: <http://www.thenewnorth.com/>.

ADVOCAP

ADVOCAP, a non-profit community action agency, was founded in 1966 to fight poverty within our local communities. It offers programs in Fond du Lac, Green Lake and Winnebago counties and helps low-income person's secure affordable housing, gain employment skills and training, start a small business and become self-employed, volunteer at schools and daycares, etc. More information regarding ADVOCAP can be found at: <http://www.advocap.org/>.

Local Programs

Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation (GO EDC)

To provide leadership, direction, coordination, and services to advance economic development in the greater Oshkosh area. (ADD MORE DEPTH/DESCRIPTION)

Private Programs**Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation**

WEDC is a quasi-public agency and is the state's lead economic development agency. It works collaboratively with more than 600 regional and local partner organizations, educational institutions and other government offices to help businesses, communities and individuals take advantage of new opportunities for growth and job creation through innovative market-driven programs.

- **Main Street Program.** The Main Street program assists communities ranging from towns with populations of less than 1,000 to large neighborhoods in Milwaukee and Green Bay. Communities selected to participate in the Wisconsin Main Street Program initially receive five years of free, intensive technical assistance. The end goal is to enable participating communities to professionally manage a downtown or historic commercial district that is stable, physically attractive, competitive and visible. Additional information can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/community-development/programs/main-street-program/>.
- **Connect Communities Program.** The Connect Communities Program helps local planners leverage the unique assets of their downtowns and urban districts, providing technical assistance and networking opportunities to local leaders interested in starting a downtown revitalization effort. It also provides access to additional financial and technical assistance programs. Additional information on the Connect communities Program is available at: <http://inwisconsin.com/community-development/programs/connect-communities-program/>.
- **Capacity Building Grants.** Capacity Building (CAP) Grant funds are designed to help strengthen Wisconsin's economic development network by assisting local and regional economic development groups with economic competitive assessments and the development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Additional information regarding the CAP grants can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/grow-your-business/programs/capacity-building-grants/>.
- **Brownfield Program.** Wisconsin's Brownfield Program provides grant funds to assist local governments, businesses and individuals with assessing and remediating the environmental contamination of an abandoned, idle or underused industrial or commercial facility or site. This program will help convert contaminated sites into productive properties that are attractive and ready for redevelopment. Additional information regarding the Brownfield Program can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/grow-your-business/programs/brownfield-program/>.

-
- **Enterprise Zone Tax Credit.** A certified business may qualify for tax credits only for eligible activities that occur after an eligibility date established by WEDC. Positions that are created as a result of the tax credits claimed shall be maintained for at least five years after the certification date established by WEDC. Additional information regarding the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit program can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/grow-your-business/programs/enterprisecredit/>.
 - **Industrial Revenue Bond.** Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRBs) are designed to help Wisconsin municipalities support industrial development through the sale of tax-exempt bonds. RB financing can be used for building, equipment, land, and bond issuance costs, but not for working capital. Additional information regarding the Industrial Revenue Bond program can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/grow-your-business/programs/industrial-revenue-bond/>.
 - **Wisconsin Manufacturing and Agriculture Credit.** The manufacturing and agriculture tax credit is available to individuals and entities for taxable years that begin on or after January 1, 2013, for manufacturing and agricultural activities in Wisconsin. The tax credit is available for income derived from manufacturing or agricultural property located in Wisconsin and will offset a significant share of Wisconsin income taxes. The credit is a percentage of “eligible qualified production activities income. Additional information regarding the Wisconsin Manufacturing and Agriculture Credit program can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/grow-your-business/programs/wisconsin-manufacturing-and-agriculture-credit/>.
 - **Business Opportunity Loan.** Business Opportunity Loans are available to a business that has created new full-time positions and/or retained its existing full-time employment base in Wisconsin. Additional information regarding Business Opportunity Loans can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/grow-your-business/programs/business-opportunity-loan/>.
 - **Impact Loans.** Impact Loans are available to businesses with expansion projects that will have a significant impact on job creation, job retention, and capital investment on the surrounding community. WEDC’s Impact Loan Program is a forgivable loan program. Additional information regarding Impact Loans can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/grow-your-business/programs/impact-loans/>.
 - **Economic Development Tax Credits (Etc.).** Economic Development Tax Credits (ETC) are available for businesses that begin operating in, relocate to, or expand an existing operation in Wisconsin. Additional information regarding Economic Development Tax Credits can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/grow-your-business/programs/economic-development-tax-credits/>.
 - **Training Grants.** Rodrigues Training grants are available to any business making a firm commitment to locate a new facility in Wisconsin or expand an existing facility within the state, and is upgrading a product, process or service that requires training in new technology and industrial skills. Grants fund business upgrades to improve the job-related skills of its full-time employees. Additional information regarding Training Grants can be found at <http://inwisconsin.com/grow-your-business/programs/training-grants/>.

- **Minority Business Development Revolving Loan Fund.** The Minority Business Development Revolving Loan Fund Program (MRLF) is designed to support minority business development through business creation, business expansion and minority community business attraction. This is accomplished through direct grant assistance to qualifying minority business associations in Wisconsin. Grant assistance is provided to minority business associations for Revolving Loan Funds, technical assistance and used as a pass through to fund training. Additional information is available at <http://inwisconsin.com/inside-wedc/transparency/programs/minority-business-rlf/>.

Wisconsin Entrepreneurs' Network

Business Planning or Commercialization Planning Assistance. The Business or Commercialization Planning assistance micro-grant can fund up to 75% of the costs, limited to \$4000, spent on hiring an independent, third party to write a comprehensive business or commercialization plan for a Wisconsin business. The program is limited to businesses in certain industries. Additional information regarding the Business or Commercialization Planning assistance micro-grants can be found at <http://www.wenportal.org/>.

HOUSING

State, Regional, County, and Local Policies

State Policies

Wisconsin Department of Administration

Wisconsin Consolidated Housing Plan; 2015-2019. The *Wisconsin 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan*, developed by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, Division of Housing (DOH), details the Division's overall strategy for addressing housing, community, and economic development needs. The plan defines how the Division of Housing will distribute grant funds to local governments, public and private organizations, and businesses. Additional information is available at: <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/Consolidated-Plan>.

Regional Policies

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Milestone #3, Goals, Strategies, and a Plan for Action, Year 2030 Regional Comprehensive Plan "Shaping the 21st Century". East Central adopted Milestone #3, its regional comprehensive plan in April 2008. The plan serves as an advisory document for counties and communities within the region. As part of this planning effort, East Central developed a vision for housing, which states:

In 2030 in the East Central Wisconsin region, a dynamic housing market fosters community and neighborhood cohesion. Varied types of quality housing are integrated with community facilities and various transportation alternatives. This housing market meets the needs of urban and rural households of all types, ages, income, cultures and mobility status.

The Milestone #3 report contains four housing plan guidelines, which contain goals, strategies, and recommendations for achieving this vision. The plan can be view at the following link: <http://www.eastcentralrpc.org/planning/compplan/milestone3/MS3Final/ms3final.htm>.

Overcoming Barriers to Affordable Housing in the East Central Region. In January 2004, East Central adopted the report, *Overcoming Barriers to Affordable Housing in the East Central Region*. This report is a compilation of input from urban and rural residents, who identified barriers to affordable housing in their communities and suggested potential solutions that local citizens, county and local governments, developers and other housing providers can use to address these issues. Some of the identified issues and potential solutions which are pertinent to the Town of Greenville include senior housing issues, income and economic development barriers and access to funding, to name a few. This report is available online at: www.eastcentralrpc.org and through the ECWRPC office. Communities and agencies are encouraged to review the options presented and choose the best option or combination of options which best serve the needs of their residents and clients. Communities and individuals from the private and nonprofit sectors are encouraged to develop additional solutions and share those solutions with others to help improve the quality of life for all residents in our communities.

County Policies

Winnebago County

A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Winnebago County: 2016-2035. The *Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan* was adopted in 2016. The plan's housing element provides the following goal "To achieve a provision of housing choices for all residents, including different age, income, and special need levels, that protect the environments, balance fiscal constraints with available services, and promote a strong economy".

Local Policies

Town of Algoma

Code of Ordinances. The Town's Code of Ordinances regulates land divisions and land uses.

Official Map. The Town of Algoma has an official map. An official map is intended to implement a master plan for a city, village or town. The master plan helps direct development by designating areas for streets, highways, parkways, floodplains, and other pertinent land uses. Official maps direct development away from sensitive areas which are designated for future public use.

Federal, National Private, State, Regional, County and Local Programs

Funding and technical assistance for housing programs are available from several federal, state, and regional agencies. A listing of these programs follows.

Federal Programs

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

-
- **Brownfield Economic Development Initiative Grant.** This grant can be used for brownfield sites (converting old industrial to residential). BEDI and Section 108 funds must be used in conjunction with the same economic development project, and a request for new Section 108 loan guarantee authority must accompany each BEDI application. Funds can be used to benefit low-moderate income persons, prevent/eliminate slum and blight, and address imminent threats and urgent needs (usually follow the same guidelines as CDBG). More specifically, funds can be used for land write downs, site remediation costs, funding reserves, over-collateralizing the Section 108 loan, direct enhancement of the security of the Section 108 loan, and provisions of financing to for-profit businesses at below market interest rates. The maximum grant amount is \$1 million, and the minimum BEDI to Section 108 ratio is 1:1. For more information visit the web site at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/bedi/>.
 - **Multi-Family Housing Programs.** HUD offers a number of multi-family programs through the state. These programs fund facility purchases, construction, rehabilitation, lead based paint abatement, energy conservation and accessibility improvements. For more information, visit HUD's website at: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/housing/mfh/grants.
 - **Public Housing Programs.** HUD offers a number of public housing programs for the development/redevelopment or management of public housing authorities, rental assistance through the Section 8 program and some limited homeownership opportunities. General information can be found at: <http://www.hud.gov/progdesc/pihindx.cfm>. Information regarding the Oshkosh - Winnebago Public Housing Authority can be found at: <http://www.ohawcha.org/>
 - **Affordable Housing Program.** The National Housing Trust Fund is a new program designed to complement existing federal, state and local efforts to increase and preserve the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing for extremely low-income and very low-income households, including homeless families. Grantees are required to use at least 80 percent of each annual grant for rental housing; up to 10 percent for homeownership housing; and up to 10 percent for the grantee's reasonable administrative and planning costs. Eligible activities include: real property acquisition; site improvements and development hard costs; related soft costs; demolition; financing costs; relocation assistance; operating cost assistance for rental housing (up to 30% of each grant); and reasonable administrative and planning costs. General information can be found at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/htf/>.
 - **Single Family Housing Programs.** HUD offers a number of single family home programs, including homebuyer education and counseling, down payment assistance, rehabilitation, weatherization, mortgage insurance and reverse mortgages. For general information, visit HUD's website at: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/housing/sfh. Some of these products, such as FHA loans, are available through approved lending institutions. Access to HUD single family home programs can also be obtained through Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) or the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) Division of Housing. Information about products WHEDA provides can be found on WHEDA's website at: <http://www.wheda.com/root/>. For

information about products provided through the DOA, visit the Wisconsin Department of Administrations Division of Housing website at: <http://doa.wi.gov/Divisions/Housing>.

- **Special Needs Programs.** HUD also funds programs for special need populations through the state. Information regarding emergency shelter/transitional housing programs or housing opportunities for people with AIDS can be found at the Wisconsin Department of Administration Division of Housing website at: <http://doa.wi.gov/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Supportive-Housing>.

Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council

- **Community Reinvestment Act.** Through the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), banks/financial institutions help meet the credit/investment needs of their markets with the primary purpose of community development. This is in part accomplished through direct grants/investments or loans to nonprofits or agencies to develop affordable housing. Direct loans are also given to individual households of which a certain percentage must go to low to moderate income households. More information can be obtained from their website: <http://www.ffiec.gov/cra/default.htm> or from your local financial institution.

United States Department of Veterans Affairs

- **Home Loan Guaranty Service.** The Veterans Administration provides a variety of benefits for eligible veterans and their dependents. Housing products include low cost loans for purchase, construction or repair of owner-occupied housing. General information can be obtained from the Veteran's Affairs at: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/>.
- **Veteran Housing and Recovery Program.** The Veteran Housing and Recovery Program (VHRP) help homeless veterans and veterans at risk of homelessness. This program is designed to help homeless veterans receive job training, education, counseling and rehabilitative services needed to obtain steady employment, affordable housing and the skills to sustain a productive lifestyle. General information on this program is available at: <http://dva.state.wi.us/Pages/benefitsClaims/VHRP.aspx>.
- **Winnebago County Veterans Service Office.** Additional information for veterans and their dependents at the following website: <https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/veterans>.

National Private Programs

National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)

The National Association of Home Builders is a trade organization that represents the building industry. They provide information and education about construction codes and standards, national economic and housing statistics, a variety of housing issues, jobs within the housing industry and information about local builders who are members of their organization. Visit their website at: <http://www.nahb.org/> for more information.

National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)

NLIHC is a national advocacy group which conducts research on low income housing issues, provides information and data on a variety of housing or housing related issues affecting low income families and publishes reports and data regarding low income housing issues and legislation. Their mission is to end the affordable housing crisis for low income families. Information about NLIHC and its activities can be found at: <http://www.nlihc.org/>. NLIHC also has a number of state partners. Wisconsin has two State Coalition Partners, the Wisconsin Partnership for Housing Development, Inc. and Wisconsin Community Action Association. For information about the Wisconsin Partnership for Housing Development, visit their website at: <http://www.wphd.org/>. For information about Wisconsin Community Action Association, visit their website at <http://wiscap.org/programs-services/programs/housing/>.

State Programs

University of Wisconsin – Extension

- **Family Living Program.** The family living program provides assistance to families throughout Winnebago County. Some of these programs include financial and parent education, Rent Smart training and home maintenance. For information visit the UW-Extension Family Living webpage at: <http://winnebago.uwex.edu/family-living/>.
- **Homeowner Resources.** UW-Extension provides a number of publications and materials to aid homeowners. Topics include home care, home maintenance and repair, life skills, financial information, gardening, landscaping, pest control, etc. These publications may be obtained through the Winnebago County UW-Extension office, or accessed online at: <http://www.uwex.edu/topics/publications/>.
- **Housing – Ownership and Renting.** UW-Extension provides a website which includes information on home maintenance and repair, a seasonal newsletter, and Rent Smart, which is a tenant education program. This website is located at: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/house/renting.html>. Publications are also available in Spanish.

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)

- **Consumer Protection.** DATCP publishes a number of resources for renters, landlords and homeowners. These publications can be found on DATCAP's website at: http://datcp.wi.gov/Consumer/Law_at_Your_Fingertips/Landlord_Tenant_Practices/Health_and_Safety_Hazards/index.aspx.

Wisconsin Department of Administration - Division of Housing

The Department of Administration – Division of Housing helps to expand local affordable housing options and housing services by managing a number of federal and state housing programs and providing financial and technical assistance. Visit their website at: <http://doa.wi.gov/Divisions/Housing> for additional information.

- **Community Development Block Grant Emergency Assistance Program (CDBG-EAP).** The CDBG-EAP program assists local units of government that have recently experienced a natural or manmade disaster. CDBG-EAP funds may be used to address damage, including: repair of disaster related damage to the dwelling unit, including repair

or replacement of plumbing, heating, and electrical systems; acquisition and demolition of dwellings unable to be repaired; down payment and closing cost assistance for the purchase of replacement dwellings; assistance is limited to 50 percent of the pre-market equalized assessed value; publicly owned utility system repairs for streets, sidewalks and community centers. Additional information is available at: <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Affordable-Housing>.

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - Small Cities Housing Program.** These funds are primarily used for rehabilitation of housing units, homebuyer assistance, and small neighborhood public facility projects. CDBG dollars are flexible and responsive to local needs.
- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - Revolving Loan Fund.** CDBG housing funds are loaned to low and moderate-income (LMI) households (households at or below 80% of county median income) to make needed repairs to their homes. These funds are also loaned to local landlords in exchange for an agreement to rent to LMI tenants at an affordable rate. CDBG housing funds are repaid to the community when the borrower moves or when the unit ceases to be the borrower's principal place of residence. Loan to landlords are repaid on a monthly basis. Loans repaid to the community are identified as CDBG-Revolving Loan Funds (CDGB-RLF). This program is administered through the City for additional information, please contact the City.
- **Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO).** A CHDO is a private nonprofit housing development corporation which among its purposes is the development of decent housing that is affordable to low- and moderate-income persons. CHDO's may qualify for special project funds, operating funds and technical assistance support associated with the state's HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME). Additional information on CHDO can be found at <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Affordable-Housing>.
- **Housing Cost Reduction Initiative (HCRI).** The HCRI program provides housing assistance to low- and moderate-income (LMI) households seeking to own or rent decent, safe, affordable housing. Funds are awarded to communities and local housing organizations to fund a range of activities that build, buy, and/or rehabilitate affordable housing for low income homeowners, homebuyers, and renters. Additional information on the HCRI program can be found at <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Affordable-Housing>.
- **HOME-Homebuyer and Rehabilitation Program (HHR).** The HHR program provides funding for (1) Homebuyer assistance to eligible homebuyers for acquisition (down payment and closing costs), acquisition and rehabilitation, or new construction; (2) Owner-occupied rehabilitation for essential improvements to single-family homes serving as the principal residence of LMI owners; and (3) Rental rehabilitation to landlords for making essential repairs to units rented to tenants at or below 60% of the county median income. Additional information on the HHR program can be found at <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Affordable-Housing>.
- **Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP).** The Neighborhood Stabilization Program provides assistance to acquire and redevelop foreclosed properties that might otherwise become sources of abandonment and blight within their communities.

Additional information on the NSP program can be found at <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Affordable-Housing>.

- **Rental Housing Development (RHD).** The Rental Housing Development (RHD) Program assists eligible housing organization, including Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), with funds to develop affordable rental housing. Additional information on the RHD program can be found at <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Affordable-Housing>.

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Lead-Safe Wisconsin. Funds are available for individuals and organizations working toward reducing lead-based paint hazards through home renovation and repair. There are different grants available. Many focus on low and moderate-income homeowners or property owners with tenants with low to moderate incomes. Some funding opportunities are aimed at special groups, such as veterans and rural residents. Additional information on Lead-Safe Wisconsin can be found at: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead/tools.htm>.

Wisconsin's Focus on Energy

Focus on Energy is Wisconsin utilities' statewide energy efficiency and renewable resource program. It offers a variety of services and energy information to energy utility customers throughout Wisconsin. To learn about the programs and services they offer, visit their website at: <http://www.focusonenergy.com>.

Wisconsin Historical Society

- **Historic Preservation.** The Wisconsin Historical Society offers technical assistance and two tax credit programs for repair and rehabilitation of historic homes in Wisconsin. One tax credit program provides state tax credits; the other program provides federal tax credits. The Wisconsin Historic Society also provides grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations for conducting surveys and developing historic preservation programs. For additional information, visit: <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/hp/>.

Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA)

- **WHEDA Foundation.** The WHEDA Foundation awards grants to local municipalities and nonprofit organizations through the Persons-in-Crisis Program Fund to support the development or improvement of housing facilities in Wisconsin for low-income persons with special needs. Special needs is defined as homeless, runaways, alcohol or drug dependent, persons in need of protective services, domestic abuse victims, developmentally disabled, low-income or frail elderly, chronically mentally ill, physically impaired or disabled, persons living with HIV, and individuals or families who do not have access to traditional or permanent housing. For more information, visit WHEDA's web site at <https://www.wheda.com/WHEDA-Foundation/>.
- **WHEDA Multi-family Products.** WHEDA offers a number of multi-family home products, including tax credits, tax exempt bond funding, construction, rehabilitation and accessibility loans, asset management and tax credit monitoring services. For

information about this programs, visit WHEDA's web site at <https://www.wheda.com/WHEDA-Foundation/>.

- **WHEDA Single Family Products.** WHEDA offers a number of single family home products, including home improvement or rehabilitation loans, homebuyer assistance and homebuyer education. For information about this programs, visit WHEDA's web site at <https://www.wheda.com/WHEDA-Foundation/>.
- **Wisconsin Affordable Assisted Living.** The WI Department of Health and Family Services and the WI Housing and Economic Development Authority in partnership with NCB Development Corporation's Coming Home Program, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation created Wisconsin Affordable Assisted Living. This website is a resource guide for providers, developers and consumers. Additional information on Affordable Assisted Living is available at <http://www.wiaffordableassistedliving.org/index.html>.

WIHousingSearch.org

The WIHousingSearch.org is a searchable statewide data base designed to help connect those looking for affordable housing with those providing housing and housing services. The website is searchable by location, unit size, availability, accessibility and cost of rent. Landlords and property managers can list their properties; they are also responsible for updating information about their properties. Renters can search for housing and services to fit their needs. WIHousingSearch.org is funded by Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, Wisconsin Department of Health Services and Wisconsin Division of Housing. Additional information on WIHousingSearch.org and to search the database can be found at <http://www.wihousingsearch.org/index.html>.

Regional Programs

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Community Development and Affordable Housing. This program element incorporates the Commission's ongoing efforts to help address regional land use and housing issues which have a strong relationship with the regional economic development strategy for the region. Examples of work under this program element relating to housing include: housing assessments and housing data, support for government, non-profit and for-profit agencies and they address housing issues.

Fair Housing Center of Northeast Wisconsin

The Fair Housing Center of Northeast Wisconsin, a branch of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council, serves the counties of Brown, Calumet, Outagamie and Winnebago as well as the City of Fond du Lac. It seeks to "promote fair housing by guaranteeing all people equal access to housing opportunities and by creating and maintaining racially and economically integrated housing patterns. The Fair Housing Center maintains four broad programmatic areas: Enforcement, Outreach and Education, Fair Lending and Inclusive Communities. Additional information on the Fair Housing Center of Northeast Wisconsin can be found at <http://www.fairhousingwisconsin.com/new.html>.

Fox Cities Housing Coalition

The Fox Cities Housing Coalition (FCHC) is a consortium of twenty-seven housing providers in the Fox Cities that maintain a Continuum of Care model to ensure that the housing needs of all persons in the Fox Valley are met. In addition, the housing coalition conducts a semi-annual point in time survey of homeless persons in the Fox Valley, and collaborates to submit joint applications for funding. More information on the FCHC can be found at: <http://www.fchc.net/>.

Financial Information and Services Center

Financial Information & Services Center (FISC) provides financial, housing and bankruptcy information and counseling for primarily low and moderate income clients. More information is available at: <https://www.fisc-cccs.org/>.

Limited Emergency Assistance Valley Ecumenical Network (LEAVEN)

LEAVEN provides limited financial assistance to people who are struggling to meet their basic needs and have nowhere else to turn for help. LEAVEN assists with rent, mortgage payments and security deposits, utility payments, etc. More information is available at: <http://www.leavenfoxcities.org/>.

County Programs**Winnebago County Home Buyer Program**

The Winnebago Homebuyer Program is a collaborative program administered by the Oshkosh / Winnebago County Housing Authority (OHAWCHA). The OHAWCHA partners with the cities of Neenah, Oshkosh, Menasha, and Omro, local lending institutions and community housing agencies to facilitate affordable homeownership and housing rehabilitation in the county. More information is available at: <http://www.winnebagohomebuyer.org/about/>.

Oshkosh/Winnebago County Housing Authority

The Oshkosh/Winnebago County Housing Authority (OHAWCHA) was formed in 1970 and provides affordable rental housing assistance, homebuyer support, and resident services to low and moderately low income families living in Winnebago County. The OHAWCHA maintains over 650 Public Housing units including family, single, disabled, and elderly units, administers over 400 Housing Choice Vouchers, owns and maintains the properties of multiple group homes, coordinates a family self-sufficiency program, and facilitates the county's home ownership program.

Local Programs

(None)

TRANSPORTATION**State, Regional, County, and Local Policies**

State Policies

Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT)

- **Wisconsin State Highway Plan 2020.** Wisconsin's State Trunk Highway system, consisting of approximately 11,800 miles of roads, is aging and deteriorating while traffic congestion is increasing. In response to this critical issue, WisDOT, in partnership with its stakeholders, has developed the *Wisconsin State Highway Plan 2020*, a 21-year strategic plan that considers the highway system's current condition, analyzes future uses, assesses financial constraints and outlines strategies to address Wisconsin's preservation, traffic movement and safety needs. The plan is updated every six years to reflect changing transportation technologies, travel demand and economic conditions in Wisconsin.

According to the Wisconsin State Highway Plan, 2020, USH 41 is expected to be extremely congested through the Fox Cities if no improvements are made. The USH 41 corridor has been identified as a potential major project. Potential projects are subject to environmental analysis and legislative approval; they will be re-evaluated in future state highway plans.

This plan also stressed the need to develop a safe inter-modal transportation system which accommodates alternate forms of transportation by designating specific state and county highways that could safely accommodate bicycle transportation. Specific accommodations recommended by the plan include the use of designated bicycle lanes in urban areas, widening traffic lanes to allow for bicycle travel, and paving shoulders to allow for increased bicycle use. The plan estimated that approximately \$6 million would be necessary to provide adequate bicycle accommodations throughout the state. More information is available at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/multimodal/ship.aspx>.

- **Connections 2030 Long Range Multimodal Transportation Plan.** Connections 2030 addresses all forms of transportation; integrates transportation modes; and identifies policies and implementation priorities to aid transportation decision makers when evaluating program and project priorities over the next 20 years. The plan is organized around transportation themes rather than modes. The seven themes are to (1) Preserve and maintain Wisconsin's transportation system; (2) Promote transportation safety; (3) Foster Wisconsin's economic growth; (4) Provide mobility and transportation choice; (5) Promote transportation efficiencies; (6) Preserve Wisconsin's quality of life; and (7) Promote transportation security. The plans policies were written using the seven themes as a base. More information is available at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/multimodal/c2030-plan.aspx>
- **Wisconsin State Bicycle Transportation Plan 2020.** The *Wisconsin State Bicycle Transportation Plan (WSBTP) 2020* specifically addresses the future needs of bicycle transportation. The plan establishes two primary goals: to double the number of bicycle trips made by 2010 and to reduce the number of motor vehicle-bicycle crashes by 10 percent by 2010. To achieve these goals, objectives for engineering, education, enforcement and encouragement were identified. These goals included not only the need for the construction of an expanded network of transportation facilities that allows for safe bicycle travel, but also for the promotion of education to advance vehicle driver

awareness of bicyclists (drivers licensing and bicycle safety courses). Finally, tips to promote the utility and ease of bicycle transportation were identified as well as a mandate to increase the enforcement of reckless driving behavior by both motorists and bicyclists.

The *WSBTP* provides suggestions for both intercity (rural) and urban/suburban bicycle facilities. The suitability of rural roads for bicycle traffic is primarily determined by the paved width of the road and the volume of traffic. To be bicycle accessible, high volume roads (greater than 1,000 vehicle trips per day) should have a paved shoulder. Most State Trunk Highways located on the Priority Corridor System meet these criteria. No improvements were recommended for low volume roads (less than 1,000 vehicles per day). Finally, separated multi-use paths (trails) were also promoted as a viable option to increase bicycle transportation opportunities within rural areas. Urban improvements should include designated bicycle lanes within the street area, widened lanes, and paved shoulders. Larger urban parks often have both paved and unimproved multi-purpose trail systems, which commonly parallel rivers or other scenic corridors. More information is available at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/projects/multimodal/bike/2020-plan.pdf>.

- **Wisconsin Pedestrian Policy Plan 2020.** The *Wisconsin Pedestrian Policy Plan 2020* provides a long-range vision to address Wisconsin pedestrian needs. It offers basic descriptions of existing and emerging pedestrian needs over the next 20 years, with a set of recommendations to meet those needs. More information is available at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/projects/multimodal/ped/2020-plan.pdf>.
- **Wisconsin Guide to Pedestrian Best Practices.** The *Wisconsin Guide to Pedestrian Best Practices* provides detailed design, planning and program information for improving all aspects of the pedestrian environment. The guide serves as a companion document to the *Wisconsin Pedestrian Policy Plan 2020* to assist in the implementation of the goals, objectives and actions of the plan and serve as a reference or guidebook for state and local officials. More information is available at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/multimodal/ped.aspx>.
- **Wisconsin State Airport System Plan 2030.** The *Wisconsin State Airport System Plan 2030* builds off the policies and issues identified in *Connections 2030*, Wisconsin's statewide long-range transportation plan adopted in October 2009. It provides an inventory and evaluation of the Wisconsin Airport System's 98 airports and an implementation plan to meet established goals and objectives. The Appleton International Airport is classified as a Commercial Service Airport. More information is available at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/multimodal/sasp/default.aspx>.
- **Midwest Regional Rail System Report.** The *Midwest Regional Rail System Report* outlines a high speed (up to 110 mph) passenger rail system that utilizes 3,000 miles of existing rail right-of-way to connect rural, small urban and major metropolitan areas. The plan calls for a rail corridor connecting Green Bay to Milwaukee and Chicago. The regional passenger rail system remains a conceptual idea at this time. More information is available at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/planning/railplan/docs/railmidwest.pdf>.

- **Wisconsin Rail Plan 2030.** The *Wisconsin Rail Plan 2030* is the statewide long-range rail transportation plan. It provides a vision for freight rail, intercity passenger rail and commuter rail, and identifies priorities and strategies that will serve as a basis for Wisconsin rail investments over the next 20 years. A copy of the plan is available at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/multimodal/railplan/default.aspx>.
- **Wisconsin State Freight Plan.** The *Wisconsin State Freight Plan* was started in early 2014 and is anticipated to be completed in December of 2016. Once completed, it will provide a vision for multimodal freight transportation and position the state to be competitive in the global marketplace by ensuring critical connections to national freight systems remain, or become, efficient. More information on this planning effort is available at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/sfp/default.aspx>.

Regional Policies

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

- **Milestone #3, Goals, Strategies, and a Plan for Action, Year 2030 Regional Comprehensive Plan “Shaping the 21st Century”.** East Central adopted Milestone #3, its regional comprehensive plan in April 2008. The plan serves as an advisory document for counties and communities within the region. As part of this planning effort, East Central developed a vision for transportation, which states:

In 2030, the East Central region will have an efficient regional transportation network which provides options for the mobility needs of all people, goods, and services.

The Milestone #3 report contains five transportation “plan guidelines”, which contain goals, strategies, and recommendations for achieving this vision. These plan guidelines are (1) Effects of Sprawl Development on Transportation, (2) Transportation Funding and Priority Plans and Projects, (3) Regional Connectivity, (4) Balance Between Transportation and the Environment, and (5) Alternative Modes of Transportation and Mobility. The plan can be view at the following link: <http://www.ecwrpc.org/programs/comprehensive-planning/2030-regional-comprehensive-plan-2030/>.

- **Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Area: Long Range Transportation / Land Use Plan Oshkosh Urbanized Area.** *The Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organization: Long Range Transportation / Land Use Plan for the Oshkosh Urbanized Area* was prepared to meet the requirements of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) for long range transportation and land use planning in metropolitan areas.. The plan can be viewed at the following link: <http://fcompo.org/planning-activities/long-range-transportation-planning/>.
- **Transportation Improvement Program for the Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organization 2017.** The Transportation Improvement Program for the Oshkosh MPO is a staged multi-year program of both capital and operating projects designed to implement the long-range element of the transportation plan and shorter-range transportation system management (TSM) element. The staged program covers a period of four years and includes projects recommended for implementation during the 2015-2018 program period. The specific annual element time frame recommended for funding approval differs for the FHWA Surface Transportation Program (STP) and the Federal

Transit Administration Operating and Capital Assistance Programs. It includes funding recommendations for STP-Urban Projects from 2019 through 2020; and for transit assistance programs for 2017 and 2018. The plan can be viewed at: <http://fcompo.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/2017-Fox-Cities-TIP.pdf>.

- **Appleton (Fox Cities) Transportation Management Area and Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organization Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan – 2014.** The bicycle / pedestrian plan focuses on regional connectivity of bicycle and pedestrian networks throughout the Fox Cities (Appleton) and Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organizations. The plan can be viewed at: <http://fcompo.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Appleton-TMA-and-Oshkosh-MPO-BikePed-Plan-2014.pdf>.
- **CHANGE TO GO TRANSIT - Valley Transit - Transit Development Plan.** The Valley Transit Development Plan was adopted in 2009 and provides a comprehensive examination of Valley Transit. It identifies recommendations for improving the transit system over the next five years. The plan can be viewed at: <http://fcompo.org/planning-activities/public-transit-specialized-transportation/>.
- **Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program Management and Coordination Plan Appleton Metropolitan Planning Organization 2014.** The Section 5310 plan details procedures for administering the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program for the Appleton Transportation Management Area (TMA). The plan can be viewed at: <http://fcompo.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Appleton-TMA-Section-5310-Management-Coordination-Plan.pdf>.

County Policies

Winnebago County

A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Winnebago County: 2016-2035. The *Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan* was adopted in 2016. The plan's transportation element provides the following goal: To achieve a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound transportation system that provides personal mobility for all segments of the population and supports the economy of the county.

County Code of Ordinances. The Winnebago County Code of Ordinances regulates transportation facilities. Several chapters may be relevant to the Town. These chapters, relating to transportation are summarized below.

Chapter 7 – Traffic Code. The Traffic Code regulates the speed limits on county highways within the unincorporated areas of the county.

Chapter 8 – Public Works. The public works ordinance establishes criteria for sharing the cost of funding for urban type construction on County Trunk Highways under county maintenance jurisdiction.

Chapter 18 - Subdivisions and Platting. The ordinance facilitates division of larger parcels of land into smaller parcels of land through two methods: Certified Survey Maps (CSMs) and Plats. Certified Survey Maps create up to four new lots, parcels or tracts from the parent parcel. Plats

are required for land subdivisions that create five or more lots created from the parent parcel. The ordinance also contains design standards for streets, blocks, setbacks and utility easements.

Winnebago County Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan, 2013 -2017. The *Winnebago County Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan*, adopted in 2013, describes existing conditions, projects future growth, and offers recommendations to guide the future growth and development of recreational facilities in Winnebago County. The plan identifies three goals: (1) Provide throughout the county a planned system of parks and recreation areas that will enable county residents and visitors alike to participate in and enjoy a diversity of recreational activities; (2) Preserve scarce and valuable resources important to the ecological, sociological, and economic life of the county; and (3) To encourage continued involvement of county residents when planning for parks and recreational development.

Local Policies

Town of Algoma

Code of Ordinances. The Town's Code of Ordinances regulates land divisions and land uses.

Official Map. The Town of Algoma has an official map. An official map is intended to implement a master plan for a city, village or town. The master plan helps direct development by designating areas for streets, highways, parkways, floodplains, and other pertinent land uses. Official maps direct development away from sensitive areas which are designated for future public use.

Federal, State, Regional and Local Programs

Federal Programs

Department of Transportation (DOT)

- **Surface Transportation Urban Program (STP-Urban, STP-U).** This program allocates federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act funds to complete a variety of transportation improvements including projects on higher function local roads not on the State Trunk Highway system, and local safety improvements. To be eligible roads must be functionally classified as urban "collector" or higher. More information can be found at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/doing-bus/local-gov/astnce-pgms/highway/stp-urban.pdf>.
- **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).** The TAP allocates federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act funds to transportation improvement projects that "expand travel choice, strengthen the local economy, improve the quality of life, and protect the environment. Projects that met eligibility criteria for the Safe Routes to School Program, Transportation Enhancements, and/or the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program will be eligible TAP projects. More information on the TAP can be found at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/local-gov/astnce-pgms/aid/tap.aspx>.

State Programs

Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT)

WisDOT is responsible for planning, building and maintaining Wisconsin's network of state highways and Interstate highway system. The department shares the costs of building and operating county and local transportation systems - from highways to public transit and other modes. WisDOT plans, promotes and financially supports statewide air, rail and water transportation, as well as bicycle and pedestrian facilities. A few of the funding opportunities are listed below, more information on other WisDOT associated funding opportunities (various programs) is available at:

<http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-business/local-government/astnce-programs/highway/default.aspx>.

- **Local Bridge Improvement Assistance Program.** This program helps counties, cities, villages, and towns rehabilitate or replace existing bridges on Wisconsin's local highway system based on the sufficiency rating. The program operates on a cost-shared basis with federal and state funds accounting for 80% of the total eligible project costs. More information on the Local Bridge Improvement Assistance Program can be found at <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-business/local-government/astnce-programs/highway/localbridge.aspx>.
- **General Transportation Aid.** Road maintenance is partially funded by disbursement of the state transportation fund. The largest portion of the fund is from General Transportation Aids. The state provides an annual payment to each county and municipality that funds a portion of the local governments' costs for activities such as road construction, filling potholes, snow removal, and other related transportation maintenance. Disbursements from the account are determined by the total mileage of local roads within the municipality or by a formula based on historic spending. This information must be reported annually. More information can be found at <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-business/local-government/astnce-programs/highway/gta.aspx>.
- **Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP).** This program provides funding to improve or replace seriously deteriorating county highways, town roads, and city or village streets. New roads are not eligible. LRIP funds pay up to 50% of total eligible costs while the remaining amounts must be matched by the local government. The program has three basic programs: County Highway Improvement (CHIP); Town Road Improvement (TRIP); and Municipal Street Improvement (MSIP). Additional discretionary funds are available for high cost projects. More information can be found at <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-business/local-government/astnce-programs/highway/lrip.aspx>.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program.** This program provides funding for projects that construct or plan for bicycle or bicycle/pedestrian facilities. More information can be found at <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-business/local-government/astnce-programs/highway/gta.aspx>.
- **Disaster Damage Aids.** Towns, villages, cities or counties may apply for financial aid due to disaster damage to any public highway under its jurisdiction that is not on the State Trunk or Connecting Highway systems. More information can be found at <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-business/local-government/astnce-programs/highway/disaster.aspx>.

-
- **Wisconsin Employment Transportation Assistance Program (WETAP).** This program is designed to provide transportation for low-income workers to jobs, training centers, and childcare facilities through enhanced local transportation services. Funding is provided by a combination of federal, state, and local funds. This program provides a crucial link to allow low-income workers to remain in the workforce. More information can be found at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/local-gov/astnce-pgms/transit/wetap.aspx>.
 - **Local Transportation Enhancement Program (TE).** This program provides funds that increase multi-modal transportation within a region while enhancing the community and the environment. Eligible projects include multi-use recreational trails, landscaping, or the preservation of historic transportation structure. Funds cover up to 80% of the total eligible project costs. More information can be found at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/local-gov/astnce-pgms/aid/te.aspx>.
 - **Transportation Economic Assistance Grant Program (TEA Grant).** This program provides a 50% state grant to local governments, private businesses, and consortiums for road, rail, harbor, and airport projects that are necessary to help attract employers to Wisconsin. These grants have a performance based incentive and successful funding requires that businesses and industries created by the grant program retain and expand local economies in Wisconsin. More information can be found at <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/local-gov/astnce-pgms/aid/tea.aspx>.

Regional Programs

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Mobile and Active Communities Program. The program element coordinates, administers and promotes federal, state, regional and metropolitan transportation planning through the Commission's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) designation for the three urbanized areas. Major work efforts include the Fox Cities and Oshkosh Urbanized Areas MPOs, Short-Range Planning – Congestion Management Process (TMA) (TAP), Regional Transportation Planning, and the Fond du Lac Urbanized Area MPO. Examples of work under this program element include: local road and highway planning (Long-Range Transportation/Land Use Plans, Transportation Improvement Programs, CUBE Traffic Demand Model for transportation planning scenario analysis, highway corridor studies, traffic facility assistance, transportation assistance management, highway access control assistance, official street mapping, jurisdictional road transfers, PASER Pavement Evaluation Ratings, WisDOT WISLR access and training, local road sign inventories and airport systems), public transit planning, freight system planning, bicycle and pedestrian planning (bicycle and pedestrian plan development and implementation, on-street and off-street bicycle facilities issues and assessments, safe routes to school plans, bicycle and pedestrian safety training and bicycle route mapping), and grant assistance and support letters.

- **Oshkosh Area MPO** – The Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) encompasses the city of Oshkosh, the towns Algoma, Black Wolf, Nekimi, Oshkosh, Vinland and Winnebago County.
- **East Central Wisconsin Regional Safe Routes to School (SRTS).** The SRTS is a national and international movement to create safe, convenient and fun opportunities for

children to bicycle and walk to and from schools. The goal of the program is to enable and encourage children K-8th grade, including those with disabilities, to walk and bike to school. The East Central Wisconsin Regional SRTS Program focuses on empowering local communities and school districts with the resources and knowledge needed to implement SRTS activities.

Local Programs

Greater Oshkosh Transit (GO Transit)

Fixed Route Bus Service. GO Transit's mission is to provide reliable, affordable and accessible public transportation options to support our community's mobility needs. Transportation options include fixed-route bus service within the City of Oshkosh, paratransit services to elderly and disabled individuals, paratransit service to low-income workers, and intercity bus service to Neenah.

UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Federal, State, Regional, County, and Local Policies

Federal Policies

Water Pollution Control Act. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act (1977), more commonly known as the Clean Water Act, established the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into surface waters. Effluent standards for wastewater treatment plants and other industrial facilities were established by this landmark legislation. The legislation also provided grants to communities to assist with planning and construction of upgraded facilities. Today, increasing levels of growth and changing treatment standards have caused more recent expansions and improvements of these systems.

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Drinking water standards are set by the USEPA. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires the USEPA to set primary standards, while individual public water systems must ensure that they are met. Drinking water standards apply to public water systems which supply at least 15 connections or 25 persons at least 60 days of a calendar year. Standards have been set for 90 chemical, microbiological, radiological, and physical contaminants. Non-enforceable guidelines are also set for secondary standards for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects such as poor taste or odors.

State Policies

Wisconsin Administrative Code

Chapter SPS 383 Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems. Formally COMM 83, Chapter SPS 383 establishes uniform standards and criteria for the design, installation, inspection and management of a private onsite wastewater treatment system, POWTS, so that the system is safe and will protect public health and the waters of the state.

Chapter 287 Solid Waste Reduction, Recovery and Recycling. Chapter 287 regulates solid waste reduction, recovery and recycling the state, as well as littering and enforcement requirements. The law requires that every citizen in Wisconsin must have residential recycling service or drop-off centers within easy access and should be provided with recycling education and outreach.

Chapter NR-110 Sewerage Systems. Chapter NR-110 regulates site-specific facility planning and sanitary sewer extensions. Decisions regarding the extension or expansion of wastewater collection facilities are made primarily at the local level.

Chapter NR-121 Areawide Water Quality Management Plans. Chapter NR-121 specifies the standards and processes for initiating and continuous area wide wastewater treatment management planning. As provided by NR-121, the WNRD's role is to review and approve every sewer service area plan and its amendments, taking into account water quality impacts and cost-effectiveness.

Chapter NR-809 Safe Drinking Water. Drinking water standards are also maintained at a state level. NR-809 regulates the design, construction, and proper operation of public water systems. The WDNR also assures that regulated contaminants are adequately monitored.

Regional Policies

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Milestone #3, Goals, Strategies, and a Plan for Action, Year 2030 Regional Comprehensive Plan "Shaping the 21st Century". East Central adopted Milestone #3, its regional comprehensive plan in April 2008. The plan serves as an advisory document for counties and communities within the region. As part of this planning effort, East Central developed a vision for utilities and community facilities, which states:

Efficient, cost effective community facilities are provided, which enhance the quality of life and ensure prosperity and economic stability for all. The emphasis in service provision is on cooperative planning, fostering collaboration, enhancing partnerships, sharing resources and transcending boundaries, as appropriate. In 2030, there are regional opportunities for the sustainable and safe management of solid waste and recycling, collection, processing and disposal activities. A well-managed and planned public and private water supply provides for the region's citizens and industry. The region is served by a variety of well-functioning public and private wastewater treatment systems, which are capable of accommodating future growth, while limiting the inherent conflicts caused by both urban and rural development patterns. Adequate, cost effective, environmentally conscientious utility infrastructure exists to support industry and the general population. There are cost effective, efficient, quality emergency and non-emergency services to ensure public safety. A variety of meaningful educational options and opportunities exist for all students. Children and adults in the region are provided with accessible educational, informational and recreational library services and materials in an economically efficient and timely manner. There is a collaborative regional forum to create and implement a strategic framework for the continuum of care for the health and wellbeing of the residents of the region. Through cooperative efforts, park, open space, and recreational facilities and programs are protected and preserved and there are plans for new facilities. There are community facilities which

meet the needs of various groups, including youth, elderly, and minorities, in a balanced and financially responsible manner.”

The Milestone #3 report contains nine utilities and community facilities “plan guidelines”, which contain goals, strategies, and recommendations for achieving this vision. The plan guidelines are (1) Waste: Garbage and Recycling, (2) Public and Private Wastewater Treatment, (3) Public and Private Water Supply, (4) Electric, Gas and Telecommunications, (5) Public Safety, (6) Education and Libraries, (7) Health and Childcare, (8) Local Parks and Recreational Facilities, and (8) Wind Energy. The plan can be view at the following link:

<http://www.eastcentralrpc.org/planning/compplan/milestone3/MS3Final/ms3final.htm>.

County Policies

Winnebago County

A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Winnebago County: 2016-2035. The *Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan* was adopted in 2016. The plan’s utilities and community facilities goal is to achieve maintenance and development of quality public services and facilities that provide for recreational opportunities, a low crime rate, strong rural and urban economies, a clean environment, and reasonable and equitable taxes.

County Code of Ordinances. The Winnebago County Code of Ordinances regulates private on-site wastewater treatment systems. Several chapters may be relevant to the Town. These chapters, relating to Utilities and Community Facilities are summarized below.

Chapter 6 – Emergency Management Operations. The Emergency Management Operations ordinance ensures that the county will be able to cope with emergencies resulting from enemy action and with emergencies resulting from natural disasters.

Chapter 11 – Health and Social Services. This chapter regulates the County Department of Health and Human Services and contains the Public Health Code.

Chapter 15 – Sanitary Landfill. This ordinance regulates the county sanitary landfill and transportation of waste to the landfill.

Chapter 16 – Private On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems. This ordinance regulates private on-site wastewater systems in the county.

Chapter 19 – Parks and Recreation. This chapter regulates parks and related activities.

Winnebago County Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan, 2013 -2017. The *Winnebago County Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan*, adopted in 2013, describes existing conditions, projects future growth, and offers recommendations to guide the future growth and development of recreational facilities in Winnebago County. The plan identifies three goals: (1) Provide throughout the county a planned system of parks and recreation areas that will enable county residents and visitors alike to participate in and enjoy a diversity of recreational activities; (2) Preserve scarce and valuable resources important to the ecological, sociological, and economic life of the county; and (3) To encourage continued involvement of county residents when planning for parks and recreational development.

Local Policies

Town of Algoma

Code of Ordinances. The Town's Code of Ordinances regulates land divisions and land uses.

Official Map. The Town of Algoma has an official map. An official map is intended to implement a master plan for a city, village or town. The master plan helps direct development by designating areas for streets, highways, parkways, floodplains, and other pertinent land uses. Official maps direct development away from sensitive areas which are designated for future public use.

Federal, State, and Regional Programs

Federal Programs

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

- **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Program.** The Clean Water Act also established the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Program. The comprehensive two-phased program addresses the non-agricultural sources of stormwater discharges which adversely affect surface water quality. A NPDES permitting mechanism requires the implementation of controls designed to reduce the volume of stormwater runoff and the level of harmful pollutants in stormwater runoff.

Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA)

FEMA offers several annual grant awards to fire departments. Eligible project costs include equipment, supplies, training, emergency work (evacuations, shelters, etc.), and mobilization/demobilization activities. All municipal jurisdictions with a population of less than 50,000 are eligible to receive funding. Recipients must provide a 10 percent match for all project costs. Additional information on FEMA grants is available at <http://www.fema.gov/grants>.

Other Federal Agencies

Federal regulation of telecommunications, radio, and television towers is currently under the auspices of the **Federal Communications Commission (FCC)**, the **Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)**, and the **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)**. The FCC issues licenses for new telecommunication facilities by determining the overall need, coordinates frequencies, and regulates tower placement. Communication towers must be located at the most central point at the highest elevation available. The FAA regulates tower height, coloring, and lighting to ensure aircraft safety. OSHA regulates the occupational exposure to non-ionizing electromagnetic radiation emitted from radio, microwave, television, and radar facilities.

State Programs

Public Service Commission (PSC)

Public utilities in Wisconsin are regulated by the PSC, an independent regulatory agency. The PSC sets utility rates and determines levels for adequate and safe service. More than 1,400 utilities are under the agency's jurisdiction. PSC approval must be obtained before instituting new rates, issuing stock or bonds, or undertaking major construction projects such as power plants, water wells, and transmission lines. Additional information on the Public Service Commission is available at <http://psc.wi.gov/>.

Wisconsin Department of Administration

- **Community Development Block Grant – Public Facilities (CDBG – PF).** CDBG-PF funds help support infrastructure and facility projects for communities. Some examples of eligible projects include streets, drainage systems, water and sewer systems, sidewalks, and community centers. Additional information regarding the CDBG-PF program can be found at <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/Bureau-of-Community-Development/CDBG-PF-Program-Overview>.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

- **Wisconsin Solid Waste Management Program.** Begun in the 1970s, the Wisconsin Solid Waste Management Program regulates the collection, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of solid waste. The solid waste administrative codes are extensive and include Chapter 502, Solid Waste Storage, transportation, transfer, incineration, air curtain destructors, processing, wood burning, composting and municipal solid waste combustors; Chapter 518, Land spreading of solid waste; and ATCP 34, Clean sweep program. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waste/solid.html>.
- **Knowles-Nelson State Stewardship.** The Knowles-Nelson State Stewardship Fund is a land acquisition program for the State of Wisconsin. Created by the state legislature in 1989, \$60 million dollars per year is utilized to purchase lands for parks and other recreational purposes. An important component of the program is the cooperation between the DNR and local governments and non-profit organizations. The program offers a 50 percent grant match to create parks, hiking trails, hunting grounds, and other facilities. The funds can also be utilized for facilities improvements such as road construction and capital acquisition projects (picnic equipment, playgrounds, etc.). More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stewardship/>.
- **Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP).** The Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) is one of two Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF) loans that are jointly managed and administered by the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Administration. It offers loans and hardship grants to any town, village, city, county utility district, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, metropolitan sewerage district or federally recognized American Indian tribe or band to construct or modify municipal wastewater systems or construct urban storm water best management practices. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html>.
- **Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP).** The Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) is one of two Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF) loans that are

jointly managed and administered by the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Administration offers loans to any city, village, town, county, sanitary district, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, or municipal water district to construct or modify public water systems to comply with public health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html>.

- **Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) program.** The Department regulates the discharge of pollutants to waters of the state through the WPDES program. Individual (e.g., site-specific) WPDES permits are issued to municipal and industrial facilities discharging to surface water and/or groundwater. As of 2012, approximately 358 industrial facilities require individual WPDES permits and approximately 649 municipalities held individual WPDES permits. WPDES general permits are issued by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for specific categories of industrial, municipal and other wastewater discharges. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/permits.html>.
- **Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) Storm Water Program.** The NPDES program is administered by the WDNR through NR-216. The Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) Storm Water Program regulates stormwater discharge from construction sites, industrial facilities, and selected municipalities. Recent Phase II requirements will require six minimum control measures to be addressed by communities and other local entities: public education, public participation, illicit discharges, construction site pollutant control (≥ 1 acre in size), post construction site stormwater management, and pollution prevention. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/dischargeypes.html>.

Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

The Wisconsin Constitution as it was adopted in 1848 provided for the establishment of district schools that would be free to all children age 4 to 20. Subsequent laws allowed a property tax to be collected to fund school programs. Today, the Department of Public Education (DPI) oversees the operations of school systems and sets state standards for educational curricula, teacher certification standards, and other educational programs.

Wisconsin Community Action Program Association (WISCAP)

The Wisconsin Community Action Program Association (WISCAP) is the statewide association for Wisconsin's sixteen (16) Community Action Agencies and three single-purpose agencies with statewide focus. CAP Services, a member of WISCAP covers Winnebago County.

Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL)

- **State Trust Fund Loan Program.** The State Trust Fund Loan Program offers loans to municipalities, lake districts, metropolitan sewerage districts and town sanitary districts for a wide variety of municipal purposes.

Regional Programs

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC)

Sustainable and Efficient Community Services and Facilities Program. This program element implements the requirements of the “Smart Growth” planning legislation for the Community Facilities and Utilities plan element and incorporates the Commission’s ongoing NR-121 sewer service area (SSA) planning function. In addition to SSA planning, the Commission provides assistance in the following areas: electric transmission line project reviews, capital improvement programs, resource recovery and recycling/composting and solid waste management planning.

- **Sewer Service Area Planning.** This function is derived from ECWRPC being designated by the WDNR as the 208 Water Quality Management Planning Agency for the region. The Commission acts in an advisory and regulatory role for Sewer Service Area (SSA) Plans and has prepared detailed long range plans for 26 wastewater treatment plants to address growth and ensure water quality within the region. In addition, the Commission acts in an advisory capacity to WDNR and provides recommendations on various plan updates, amendments, facilities plans, and sewer extensions. Additionally the Commission provides population and development projections for facility siting and sewer service area planning.

Recreation and Heritage Opportunities Program. The Recreation and Heritage Opportunities work program element encompasses planning activities associated with meeting the open space and recreational needs of the region as a whole, as well as plans for individual governmental jurisdictions. Examples of work under this program element include: park and open space plans, park site plans, park funding and programming information, recreation inventories, recreation surveys, park needs assessments, water trail planning and ADA accessibility issues.

Natural Resource Management. The Natural Resource Management planning element ensured that the region’s natural resources and unique environmental features are identified and managed as an integral part of planning and development throughout the region. This program element includes hazard mitigation planning, stormwater and watershed management and the NR-135 Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Program Administration.

AGRICULTURAL, CULTURAL, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Federal, State, Regional, County, and Local Policies

Federal Policies

Clean Water Act (1977). The Clean Water Act established the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States.

State Policies

Wisconsin State Statutes

-
- **Chapter 91 Farmland Preservation.** This chapter requires the county to adopt a Farmland Preservation Plan. It addresses Farmland Preservation zoning and agricultural enterprise areas.

Wisconsin Administrative Code

- **Chapter SPS 383, Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems.** Formally COMM 83, Chapter SPS 383 establishes uniform standards and criteria for the design, installation, inspection and management of a private onsite wastewater treatment system, POWTS, so that the system is safe and will protect public health and the waters of the state.
- **Chapter NR-103, Water Quality Standards for Wetlands.** Chapter NR-103 establishes water quality standards for wetlands.
- **Chapter NR-115, Wisconsin’s Shoreland Management Program.** Chapter NR-115 requires counties to adopt zoning and subdivision regulations for the protection of all shorelands in unincorporated areas.
- **Chapter NR-116, Wisconsin’s Floodplain Management Program.** Chapter NR-116 requires municipalities to adopt reasonable and effective floodplain zoning ordinances.
- **Chapter NR-135, Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation.** Chapter NR-135 was established to ensure that non-metallic mining sites are properly abandoned. This law promotes the removal or reuse of non-metallic mining refuse, removal of roads no longer in use, grading of the non-metallic mining site, replacement of topsoil, stabilization of soil conditions, establishment of vegetative groundcover, control of surface water flow and groundwater withdrawal, prevention of environmental pollution, development and reclamation of existing non-metallic mining sites, and development and restoration of plant, fish and wildlife habitat if needed to comply with an approved reclamation plan.
- **Chapter ATCP 49, Farmland Preservation (Proposed).** In 2009, the Wisconsin Farmland Preservation Program, which had been in existence since 1977, was repealed by the Wisconsin State Legislature and recreated with a new structure. This was done in response to growing pressures to convert farmland statewide to nonagricultural uses. Under the new law, DATCP was authorized to write an administrative rule that sets technical details as to how local governments may plan and zone to preserve farmland.

Regional Policies

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Milestone #3, Goals, Strategies, and a Plan for Action, Year 2030 Regional Comprehensive Plan “Shaping the 21st Century”. East Central adopted Milestone #3, its regional comprehensive plan in April 2008. The plan serves as an advisory document for counties and communities within the region. As part of this planning effort, East Central developed three separate chapters for agriculture, natural and cultural resources:

Agricultural Resources Vision: In 2030, agriculture is an important feature of the economy and lifestyle of the East Central region. Development pressures have been diverted away

from prime farmland and ample, un-fragmented agricultural districts exist. Farming is practiced on the most productive soils. A variety of farm types and sizes are operating successfully. The region's farming community supplies both local and global markets. Citizens, local officials, and farmers are aware of and continuously address interrelated economic and land use issues. The viable and stable farm economy, in terms of farm income and prosperity, reflects concerted efforts by the private and public sectors to balance free market forces and government programs for land conservation.

Natural Resources Vision: In 2030, the importance of natural resources, including their link to the regional economy, quality of life, and cost effective service provision is recognized. Natural resource planning is sustainable, consistent and coordinated in order to protect and build a strong sense of ecological place. The Winnebago Pool Lakes and the Fox/Wolf River systems are recognized as the backbone of the region's ecological resources. Geologic resources that are significant from an aesthetic, scientific, cultural, historic, educational, or commercial extraction purpose, have been identified, inventoried, preserved and protected to meet the development and societal needs of the region. The region has proactively addressed public access, recreation, open space, and trail facilities in order to meet the needs of its citizens; enhance the quality of life and environment; realize tax savings and other economic benefits; and to maintain and improve the region's tourism economy. The region is comprised of well-defined urban and rural spaces which improve the individual's perception of 'sense of place', while communities within the region have maintained their individual character and identity. Within the region, surface water resources are planned for in a watershed-based manner that embraces and encourages the use of 'green infrastructure' concepts. The proactive protection of natural features not only contributes to water quality, but also to the long term sustainability and economic benefit of the region.

Cultural Resources Vision: In the year 2030, the region is recognized as a leader in the state for preservation of its cultural resources. It provides public access to resource protection tools and the political advocacy necessary to ensure protection for, and appreciation of, our diverse ethnic heritage, both historic and prehistoric.

The Milestone #3 report contains four agricultural, five natural, and five cultural resources "plan guidelines", which contain goals, strategies, and recommendations for achieving each vision. The plan can be view at the following link:

<http://www.eastcentralrpc.org/planning/compplan/milestone3/MS3Final/ms3final.htm>.

County Policies

Winnebago County

A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Winnebago County: 2016-2035. The *Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan* was adopted in 2016. The plan's agricultural, cultural, and natural resources element provides the following goals:

Agricultural:

- To achieve maintenance and development of the agricultural industry through agriculture diversification, protection of economically viable tracts of arable land, and the prevention of conflict between agricultural and incompatible uses.

Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources:

- To achieve a clean and attractive environment through the protection of natural resources, land use stewardship, development of recreational opportunities and preservation of historical assets.

County Code of Ordinances. The Winnebago County Code of Ordinances regulates erosion and sediment control, floods, nonmetallic mining, shoreland-wetland zoning, stormwater management and other ordinances that may be relevant to the Town. Several chapters that relate to agricultural, natural and cultural resources are summarized below.

Chapter 13 – Animal Waste Management. The purpose of this Chapter is to assure the safe handling and spreading of livestock waste as well as to regulate the location, design, construction, alteration, operation, and maintenance of all livestock facilities and livestock waste transfer and storage facilities; and to regulate the abandonment/closure of livestock waste transfer and storage facilities.

Chapter 16 – Private On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems. This ordinance regulates private on-site wastewater systems in the county.

Chapter 20 – Non-metallic Mining. The purpose of this chapter is to establish a local program to ensure the effective reclamation of nonmetallic mining sites on which nonmetallic mining takes place in Winnebago County.

Chapter 26 – Floodplain Zoning Code. This chapter is intended to regulate floodplain development to protect life, health and property; minimize expenditures of public funds for flood control projects; minimize rescue and relief efforts undertaken at the expense of the taxpayers; minimize business interruptions and other economic disruptions; minimize damage to public facilities in the floodplain; minimize the occurrence of future flood blight areas in the floodplain; discourage the victimization of unwary land and homebuyers; prevent increases in flood heights that could increase flood damage and result in conflicts between property owners; and discourage development in a floodplain if there is any practicable alternative to locate the activity, use or structure outside of the floodplain.

Chapter 27 – Shoreland Zoning Code. Shorelands are defined as lands which are: 1,000 feet from the ordinary high water elevation mark of navigable lakes, ponds, or flowages; or 300 feet from the ordinary high water elevation mark of navigable rivers or streams. If the landward side of the floodplain exceeds either of these two measurements, this is used as the zoning standard. Wetlands means those areas where water is at, near or above the land surface long enough to be capable of supporting aquatic or hydrophytic vegetation and which have soils indicative of wet conditions. This ordinance controls the lot size, building setbacks, landfills, agricultural uses, alteration of surface vegetation, sewage disposal, filling, grading, lagoons, and other uses which may be detrimental to this area.

Winnebago County Farmland Preservation Plan, adopted March 13, 2012. The Winnebago County Farmland Preservation Plan is included in the *Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan*. The plan is intended to guide local efforts related to farmland protection and the promotion of the agricultural sector in Winnebago County during the 15-year period from 2012 through 2026. The goals of the plan are: (1) Protect farmland in Winnebago County, while balancing landowner rights and community benefit; (2) Maintain a strong agricultural economy; (3) Support

agriculture-related businesses and support systems; and (4) Promote urban agriculture. The intent of the plan is to meet the requirements of chapter 91 of the Wisconsin State Statutes for Farmland Preservation and help maintain sustainable agriculture economies in the county as well provide an informational base to assist decision makers in the preservation of farmland and agriculture related development within the county.

2011-2020 Winnebago County Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan.

Appendix C, 2016- 2020 Work Plan was updated in 2016. The LWRM) addresses soil and water quality concerns using local, state and federal programs. The goal of the *Winnebago County Land and Water Resource Management Plan* is to restore, improve, and protect the ecological diversity and quality and promote the beneficial uses of the land, water, and related resources found throughout the county.

Local Policies

Town of Algoma

Code of Ordinances. The Town's Code of Ordinances regulates land divisions and land uses.

Official Map. The Town of Algoma has an official map. An official map is intended to implement a master plan for a city, village or town. The master plan helps direct development by designating areas for streets, highways, parkways, floodplains, and other pertinent land uses. Official maps direct development away from sensitive areas which are designated for future public use.

Federal, State, Regional, County and Local Programs

Federal Programs

US Environmental Protection Agency

- **National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Program.** The Clean Water Act established the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Program. The comprehensive two-phased program addresses the non-agricultural sources of stormwater discharges and industrial/municipal effluents which adversely affect surface water quality. A NPDES permitting mechanism requires the implementation of controls designed to reduce the volume of stormwater runoff and the level of harmful pollutants in stormwater runoff. More information is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/npdes>.

State Programs

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)

DATCP has a number of programs related to agricultural development, conservation assistance, farm and rural services, farmland preservation, etc. A few of the programs are highlighted below:

Working Land Initiative. The Wisconsin Working Lands Initiative was signed into law in 2009 and is comprised of the following three programs Farmland Preservation Program, Agricultural Enterprise Program, Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) Program. More information is available: http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Working_Lands_Initiative/.

- **Farmland Preservation Program.** Counties are required to revise their farmland preservation plans to meet the new requirements which are designed to better protect farmland. A grant that covers up to 50 percent of the cost of preparing a farmland preservation plan is available to all counties. Local governments may choose to adopt and have certified a farmland preservation zoning ordinance to ensure that landowners covered by the ordinance are eligible to claim farmland preservation tax credits.
- **Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) Program.** AEA's are part of Wisconsin's Working Lands Initiative. An AEA is an area where the local community has prioritized preservation of farmland and agricultural development. Once an area is officially designated as an AEA, eligible farmers owning land within the area may enter into a farmland preservation agreement with the state. This enables the landowners to receive tax credits in exchange for agreeing to keep their farm in agricultural use for at least 15 years.

Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) Program. The PACE Program provides up to 50% of the cost of purchasing agricultural conservation easements, including transaction costs. Cooperating local governments or non-profit organizations can obtain money from the state to purchase easements from willing landowners. Land with an agricultural conservation easement cannot be developed for any purpose that would prevent its use for agriculture.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)

- **Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPEDS) Storm Water Program.** The NPDES program is administered by the WDNR through NR-216. The Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPEDS) Storm Water Program regulates stormwater discharge from construction sites, industrial facilities, and selected municipalities. Recent Phase II requirements will require six minimum control measures to be addressed by communities and other local entities: public education, public participation, illicit discharges, construction site pollutant control (1 or more acres in size), post construction site stormwater management, and pollution prevention. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/permits.html>.
- **Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Grant Programs.** The Knowles-Nelson State Stewardship Fund is a land acquisition program for the State of Wisconsin. Four Stewardship grant programs are available: Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP), Urban Green Space (UGS) grants, Urban Rivers (UR) grants, and Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR). The program offers a 50 percent grant match to create parks, hiking trails, hunting grounds, and other facilities. The funds can also be utilized for facilities improvements such as road construction and capital acquisition projects (picnic equipment, playgrounds, etc.). More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stewardship/grants/applylug.html>.

-
- **Wisconsin Shoreland Management Program.** Shoreland zoning can enhance the quality of surface water, protect wildlife habitat, and improve its aesthetic appearance. The Wisconsin Shoreland Management Program is a cooperative effort between state and local governments. Local governments are allowed to adopt shoreland and floodplain zoning to direct development in compliance with state minimum standards. Specific ordinances regulate zoning for wetlands (NR-103), shorelands (NR – 115), and floodplains (NR – 116). Cities and villages can adopt similar zoning ordinances under NR – 117. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ShorelandZoning/Programs/program-management.html>.
 - **Forest Crop Law and Managed Forest Law.** In 1927, the Wisconsin Legislature enacted the Forest Crop Law (FCL), a voluntary forest practices program to encourage sound forestry on private lands. It has promoted and encouraged long-term investments as well as the proper management of woodlands. This law allowed landowners to pay taxes on timber only after harvesting, or when the contract is terminated. Since the program expired in 1986, participants are not allowed to re-enroll in the program. Since 1986, the Managed Forest Law has replaced the Forest Crop Law. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestlandowners/tax.html>.
 - **The Managed Forest Law (MFL),** enacted in 1985, encourages the growth of future commercial crops through sound forestry practices. To be eligible, a landowner must own at least 10 contiguous acres of woodlands. The landowner must implement a forestry management plan for future commercial harvests on the land. Contracts can be entered for a period of either 25 or 50 years. Portions of the land enrolled are open to public access for hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, sight-seeing, and hiking. The program recognizes individual property owners' objectives while providing for society's need for compatible recreational activities, forest aesthetics, wildlife habitat, erosion control, and protection of endangered resources. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestlandowners/tax.html>.
 - **Urban Forestry Grants.** Urban Forestry Grants are provided to cities, villages, towns, counties, tribes and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/urbanforests/grants/index.html>. These grants fall into three categories:
 - Regular grants are competitive cost-share grants of up to \$25,000. Grants are to support new, innovative projects that will develop sustainable urban and community forestry programs, not to subsidize routine forestry activities.
 - Startup grants are competitive cost-share grants of up to \$5,000. These simplified grants are available to communities that want to start or restart an urban forestry program.
 - Catastrophic storm grants are used to fund tree repair, removal or replacement within urban areas following a catastrophic storm event for which the governor has declared a State of Emergency under s. 166.03, Wis. Stats.

Wisconsin Historical Society

The Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) Division of Historic Preservation (DHP) provides funds for conducting surveys to identify and evaluate historical, architectural, and archaeological resources, nominating properties and districts to the National Register, and carrying out a

program of comprehensive historic preservation planning and education. These are available to local units of government and non-profit organizations. Although funding is limited, the DHP identified target communities during each funding cycle. In recent years the DHP has favored underrepresented communities: unincorporated communities or villages or fourth-tier cities with a population less than 5,000. A set of funds is also designated for use by Certified Local Government (CLG) status communities. In addition, many private funding sources specifically target smaller communities in the more rural parts of the state. Other specific programs are listed below.

- **Wisconsin Historic Preservation Fund Subgrants.** The Wisconsin Historic Preservation Fund Subgrants provide funds for surveys to identify and evaluate historical, architectural and archaeological resources, nominating properties to the National Register of Historic Places, and for carrying out a program of historic preservation planning and education. More information is available at: <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Content.aspx?dsNav=Ro:20,N:4294963828-4294963805&dsNavOnly=N:1210&dsRecordDetails=R:CS3314>.
- **Historic Homes Tax Credit Program.** The Historic Homes Tax Credit Program offers a 25 percent Wisconsin income tax credit for homeowners who rehabilitate historic, non-income-producing personal residences <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Content.aspx?dsNav=Ro:40,N:4294963828-4294963805&dsNavOnly=N:1210&dsRecordDetails=R:CS3136>.
- **Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit.** This program returns 20 percent of the cost of rehabilitating historic buildings to owners as a direct reduction in the federal income taxes. To qualify, buildings must be income producing historic buildings, must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, or contribute to the character of a National Register Historic District. More information is available at: <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Content.aspx?dsNav=Ny:True,Ro:0,N:4294963828-4294963805&dsNavOnly=N:1210&dsRecordDetails=R:CS3215&dsDimensionSearch=D:%E2%80%A2%09Wisconsin+Supplemental+Historic+Preservation+Credit.,Dxm:All,Dxp:3&dsCompoundDimensionSearch=D:%E2%80%A2%09Wisconsin+Supplemental+Historic+Preservation+Credit.,Dxm:All,Dxp:3>.
- **Wisconsin Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program.** This program returns 20 percent of the cost of rehabilitating historic buildings to owners as a Wisconsin income tax credit. More information is available at: <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Content.aspx?dsNav=Ny:True,Ro:0,N:4294963828-4294963805&dsNavOnly=N:1210&dsRecordDetails=R:CS3215&dsDimensionSearch=D:%E2%80%A2%09Wisconsin+Supplemental+Historic+Preservation+Credit.,Dxm:All,Dxp:3&dsCompoundDimensionSearch=D:%E2%80%A2%09Wisconsin+Supplemental+Historic+Preservation+Credit.,Dxm:All,Dxp:3>.

Regional Programs

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC)

Recreation and Heritage Opportunities. The Recreation and Heritage Opportunities work program element encompasses planning activities associated with meeting the open space and

recreational needs of the region as a whole, as well as plans for individual governmental jurisdictions. This program element also includes historic and agricultural preservation. Examples of work under this program element include: park and open space plans, park site plans, park funding and programming information, recreation inventories, recreation surveys, park needs assessments, water trail planning and ADA accessibility issues.

Natural Resource Management. The Natural Resource Management planning element ensured that the region's natural resources and unique environmental features are identified and managed as an integral part of planning and development throughout the region. Examples of work under this element include: Niagara Escarpment planning, air quality management, aquatic invasive species, environmental impact review, endangered resources reviews, groundwater resource management, green infrastructure planning, floodplain management, hazard mitigation planning, lakes management planning, the NR-135 Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Program Administration, water quality management, stormwater and watershed management and wetlands protection/management.

County Programs

Winnebago County Historical and Archaeological Society

The Winnebago County Historical and Archaeological Society is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1919. The Historical Society promotes and facilitates outreach education through historically focused public programs, local historical tours, special events, and the publication of a quarterly newsletter.

Local Programs

(None)