

Date: June 13, 2018

To: Town of Algoma Board

From: Benjamin Krumenauer, Administrator

Re: TOWN OF ALGOMA COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM DESCRIPTION

As promised, the reading begins. In an attempt to keep our comprehensive plan update timeline on track, ECWRPC and I request that you take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the first two discussion sections of the draft comprehensive plan. The update committee will be asked to review the two sections, provide feedback to East Central Planning and provide guidance on several key components. For your convenience, below is a brief introduction is below for each chapter. Also attached to this memo are the full chapters. A digital version has also been distributed.

Chapter 2: Issues and Opportunities

The purpose of the Issues and Opportunities Element is to define a desired future (a vision) for the Town of Algoma with respect to land use. Section 66.1001 (2) (a) of the Wisconsin Statutes requires that the Issues and Opportunities Element include a “statement of the overall objectives, policies, goals, and programs of the governmental unit to guide the future development and redevelopment of the governmental unit over the planning period.” Although not defined in the Statutes, guidance can be found in the following definitions of these and related terms that will form the structure of the plan as it is developed:

Vision: *An aspirational description of what an organization would like to achieve or accomplish in the mid-term or long-term future. It is intended to serve as a clear guide for choosing current and future courses of action.*

Goals: *Broad and general expressions of a community’s aspirations, towards which the planning effort is directed. Goals tend to be ends rather than means.*

Objectives: *More specific targets, derived from goals and necessary to achieve those goals. While still general in nature, objectives are more precise, concrete, and measurable than goals.*

Policies/Strategies: *Rules or courses of action necessary to achieve the goals and objectives from which they are derived. They are precise and measurable.*

***Programs/Actions:** A system of projects or services necessary to achieve plan goals, objectives, and policies.*

For this plan, the reader can find this collection of statements - tailored to each subsequent background element (Chapters 3 through 10) - within that respective chapter as well as in the Executive Summary. Key strategies and actions have also been highlighted in Chapter 10 - Implementation.

To help develop the plan's vision, it is helpful to have an understanding of the community. As shared and described in the remaining sections of this chapter, two primary types of information are collected and assessed to better identify issues and opportunities. :

1) Asking for direct input from community residents, businesses and landowners about current and future issues and opportunities related to land use and topics associated with the comprehensive plan.

2) The review and analysis of demographic and socioeconomic data to gain a better understanding of the Town's population characteristics.

Chapter 3: Agricultural, Natural & Cultural Resources

Agricultural, natural, and cultural resources give definition to a community and strongly affect quality of life. Outside the urban areas of Winnebago County, a tapestry of working farms interwoven with stands of woodlands dot the landscape and shape the area's identity and culture. While agricultural acreage and the number of farms have been on the decline in Winnebago County, it is still an important component of the area economy. Natural features such as topographic relief, lakes, streams, wetlands and soils also have significant bearing on historic and contemporary land use and development patterns. Understanding the relationship between environmental characteristics and their physical suitability to accommodate specific types of activities or development is a key ingredient in planning a community's future land use.

In addition to Chapter's 2 and 3, *Appendix D, Policies and Programs* is referenced often in the document. A digital version has been provided to you but is not yet ready for print. As such, only a digital copy will be available at this time. Though not required at this time, please feel free to peruse if you are bored.

FINAL THOUGHTS

As stated above, the comprehensive plan update process is a critical process that will take time from all of you. The end goal of our next meeting is to fine tune these sections and use them as a standard for the remaining chapters. Thank you all for your continued commitment to the Town.