

CHAPTER 10: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

INTRODUCTION

The relationship a municipality has with school districts, neighboring communities, the county, the Regional Planning Commission, the state, and the federal government can impact residents in terms of taxation, planning, service provision, and siting of public facilities. An examination of these relationships and the identification of existing or potential conflicts can help a municipality address these situations in a productive manner. Detailed information and an inventory of all units of government are contained in Appendix C-10, while Chapter 2-Framework Plan contains implementation recommendations.

SUMMARY OF INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

Adjacent Units of Government

THE FACTS:

- *The Town of Algoma shares its borders with the City of Oshkosh and the Towns of Omro on the west and Nekimi on the south, all of which reside in Winnebago County.*
- *At this time, the Town of Algoma has only one formal cooperative boundary agreement, that being with the City of Oshkosh.*
- *The Town is still subject to extraterritorial reviews by the City of Oshkosh.*

WHAT IT MEANS:

The Town's current arrangement with the City of Oshkosh goes a long way in terms of providing confidence in making future land use decisions.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- *Is the City's extraterritorial review process and authority working effectively, or should changes be sought?*
- *Is the Town comfortable with the current amount/level of agreements made with adjacent communities? Are there needs to extend or revisit discussions in this arena?*

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Overlapping Units of Government

THE FACTS:

- *Two public school districts provide education to the Town of Algoma: the Oshkosh Area School District (OASD) covers the majority of the Town of Algoma. Small pockets along the Town of Omro/Town of Algoma border are part of the Omro School District. Even so, no school facilities exist within the Town.*
- *There are no institutions of higher education in the Town of Algoma. However, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, located in the City of Oshkosh offers academic and professionally oriented bachelors and master degrees in a wide range of fields. The Town is also a part of the Fox Valley Technical College district which offers a variety of two year technical degrees.*
- *The Town is part of the Oshkosh Sewer Service Area (SSA) and hence, future sewer development must adhere to this plan administered by the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.*
- *The Algoma Sanitary District provides sewer and water services (although water systems are not part of the SSA planning jurisdiction) to homes and businesses in the Town of Algoma, Town of Omro and portions of the City of Oshkosh.*
- *Town of Algoma residents are served by the Oshkosh Public Library at 106 Washington Avenue in the City of Oshkosh and by the Carter Memorial Library at 405 E Huron Street in the City of Omro.*
- *The Town of Algoma is presently under County Zoning and land use decisions are subject to the review and approval of Winnebago County. In addition, the Town of Algoma and the County must interact and cooperate regarding land divisions, on-site sanitary systems, highway system planning and special zoning (e.g. including shoreland-wetland, floodplain areas, etc.).*
- *Winnebago County, and thus the Town of Algoma, is a member of the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC). The Town is subject to several important regional plans including the Oshkosh MPO Long Range Transportation/Land Use Plan and the Oshkosh Sewer Service Area Plan.*
- *The WDNR is responsible for the regulation, protection, and sustained management of natural resources within the state.*
- *The overall mission of DATCP is multi-fold. The agency oversees programs which ensure the safety and quality of food, fair business practices for buyers and sellers, consumer protection, efficient use of agricultural resources in a quality environment, healthy animal and plant populations, and the vitality of Wisconsin agriculture and commerce.*
- *WisDOT deals with issues related to all transportation uses in the planning area. WisDOT evaluates existing transportation infra-structure for bicycle and pedestrian trails as well as assists in planning efforts for future trails.*

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WHAT IT MEANS:

Cooperation and communication between the Town of Algoma and its overlapping jurisdictions is critical to the provision of services, and hence the quality of life, to its residents. The Town of Algoma's future plans for land use, infrastructure and economic development will rely on close communication and coordination with other affected entities. Periodic and timely sharing of information regarding desired land uses, densities, and development patterns and planned land use changes will help ensure the appropriate infrastructure and services will be in place to meet the needs of the Town of Algoma residents. Close coordination and consistent, effective communication is required on land use and transportation matters and procedures should be established and adhered to. At times, specific agreements may be needed between or amongst the Town of Algoma and these entities for the provision of additional services.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- *(Question noted previously in land use section – other thoughts?) The Town does not have full control over its land use decisions. The county and city both have a say as to the type of development that can occur and where it can be located in 90% +/- of the town. How does this impact the Town's ability to grow as it desires?*
- *How can relationships and communications with the Town of Algoma Sanitary District be improved to ensure coordination of infrastructure and development?*
- *Is communication with the School Districts adequate at this time?*
- *Where can relationships with ECWRPC and State agencies be improved?*

GOALS, FRAMING CONCEPTS, POLICIES, STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

The goals, framing concepts, policies, strategies and actions are provided in Chapter 2 - Framework Plan. A single goal was developed for each plan element, along with a series of Framing Concepts which outline specific policies, strategies and action items pertaining to the implementation of this Chapter.

POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

A comprehensive listing of federal, state, county and local policies and programs which may apply to topics discussed in this chapter (where known about) are contained in Appendix G.

