

**Kenosha County**  
**Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (MJAC)**  
**(“Smart Growth”)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

August 26, 2008

**Present:** See Attached Sign-In Sheet

Fred Ekornaas, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Bill Morris to approve the June 24, 2008 MJAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Tom Kerkman and passed unanimously by a voice vote of the MJAC representatives.

**Review and possible action on revised Chapter XI, “Transportation Element,” of the Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Kenosha County:** Rick Kania of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) updated the committee on the status of Chapter XI.

Peggy Herrick stated that the Village of Pleasant Prairie Board would be reviewing the element at a meeting on September 2, 2008, after which time they would submit comments to SEWRPC. Rick Kania reported that the Town of Bristol had also deferred approval of the element until their town board had the opportunity to review it.

Jeff Labahn stated that the City of Kenosha had submitted written comments for SEWRPC regarding the Transportation Element, including the issues with bicycle transportation and technical corrections. He then asked if Len Brandup, City of Kenosha Director of Transportation, had any comments or concerns to share with the committee. Mr. Brandup stated his appreciation for the element’s emphasis on a multi-modal transportation system, including the proposed Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee commuter rail. He requested consideration of an additional policy to support the Regional Transportation Authority with the goal of establishing a dedicated fund for multi-modal transportation options. He also requested the addition of a policy supporting the streetcar system in the City of Kenosha, as well as inventory information about the streetcar fleet.

Rick Kania stated that SEWRPC would review all comments and provide revisions at a future MJAC meeting. Action on Chapter XI was deferred to a later date.

**Review and possible action on Chapter XII, “Utilities and Community Facilities Element,” of the Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Kenosha County:** Robbie Robinson of SEWRPC reviewed the information presented in the draft element chapter, which included goals, objectives, policies and programs to guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in Kenosha County, including sanitary sewer service, water supply, stormwater management, onsite wastewater treatment technology, solid waste disposal, recycling facilities, parks, telecommunications facilities, power plants and transmission lines, cemeteries, health care facilities, child care facilities, police, fire, rescue, libraries, schools, and other community facilities. Mr. Robinson noted that the projected demand for utilities and community facilities was calculated based on recommendations in the 2035 regional land use plan, and will also be addressed in Chapter IX, “Land Use Element.” He further commented that identified issues are addressed through county-level goals, objectives, policies, and programs and accompanying recommendations for cities, towns, and villages.

Referring to Maps XII-2 and XII-3, which identify areas that may need additional fire protection, Len Brandup asked whether SEWRPC had mapped the radius of four-minute response times for fire protection, noting that response time may be at least as valuable as mileage. Nancy Anderson stated that SEWRPC will explore options to estimate and map response times.

Nancy Anderson stated that SEWRPC had received additional comments, including a request for additional information about local park plans and clarification of the stormwater management and floodplains regulations in towns. The Town of Bristol Engineer also requested that information be added regarding water storage facilities that may be needed in the future.

Pat Finnemore asked whether the County's schools long-term site location plans should be included in the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan, or if they should be included in the local government plans. Nancy Anderson stated that if the information were available, it would be preferable to have it in the multi-jurisdictional plan, since not all local communities are developing their own plan.

Nancy Washburn asked if the Great Lakes Compact would have an impact on the Utilities and Community Facilities Element. Rick Kania replied that the regional water supply study, currently being conducted by SEWRPC, takes into account the compact and its potential impacts on southeastern Wisconsin. Nancy Anderson added that the Compact legislation is very complicated, and to her understanding, local communities which are partially within the Lake Michigan watershed would be able to take Lake Michigan water out of the watershed as long as it was returned; however, if communities in counties which straddle the watershed want to take water from the lake as a new source of water supply, they require approval from all governors in the Great Lakes Compact.

Nancy Washburn then commented on the importance of intergovernmental cooperation, citing as an example the Village and Town of Fredonia in Ozaukee County, which have recently constructed a joint municipal building to reduce costs.

Approval of Chapter XII, "Utilities and Community Facilities Element," was deferred to a later meeting.

#### **Status Reports:**

- **Local Reports and Plan Commission Meetings:** Nancy Anderson reported that SEWRPC will be meeting with all participating local community plan commissions or staff to discuss local plan reports and to start preparation of the 2035 land use plan maps. She stated that most communities have previously adopted land use plan maps, but a few towns and the Village of Silver Lake will need to create maps.
- **Local Base Maps with Generalized Existing 2007 Land Uses, 2005 Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas; and Existing Zoning:** Rick Kania announced that a series of maps had been prepared for each participating community and would be distributed after the meeting. He stated that the existing land use maps should be accurate through the year 2007, and the natural resources maps will reflect 2005 conditions. He also stated that the natural resources maps had not yet received official approval for public release. John Roth clarified that local communities should review their set of maps and provide comments and corrections as needed.

Peggy Herrick asked whether the natural resources maps from the DNR were the best available, stating that the Village of Pleasant Prairie GIS Department had noted inaccuracies in the wetlands areas identified on the DNR maps, compared with the village's information. Ms. Herrick will examine the DNR and Pleasant Prairie GIS maps more closely and contact SEWRPC with corrections if necessary.

- **Chapter VIII, "Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Element" and Chapter XI, "Housing Element":** Rick Kania announced that revisions on Chapters VIII and XI should be completed by the October MJAC meeting, at which time he will review them with the committee.

**Citizen Comments:** None

**Any Other Business Allowed by Law:** None

**Bus Tour – September 30, 2008:** John Roth reported that a bus tour is being planned for the MJAC, the Kenosha County Land Use Committee, and the County Executive, in accordance with the comprehensive plan's public participation plan. The tour is intended to show examples of good development in a range of prices and layouts, with the goal of stimulating ideas and discussion of future development in Kenosha County. It is scheduled for Tuesday, September 30, 2008, leaving the Kenosha County Center at 8:30 a.m. and returning around 4:00 p.m. Mr. Roth stated that invitations with more detailed information will be sent in the near future, and he asked that each participating local government consider sending three representatives.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Randy Kerkman seconded by Dennis Faber, and passed unanimously by a voice vote of the MJAC members. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristen Lie, Kenosha/Racine Community Planning Educator  
Kenosha County Department of Planning and Development

Approved: October 28, 2008