

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

MEETING MINUTES

November 27, 2007

Present: See Attached Sign-In Sheet

Fred Ekornaas, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Bill Morris to approve the October 30, 2007 MJAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Rich Gossling and passed unanimously by a voice vote of the MJAC representatives.

Review and possible action on Chapter VII, “Issues and Opportunities,” of the Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Kenosha County: Rick Kania of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) conducted a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the information contained Draft Chapter VII of the Kenosha County Comprehensive Plan. The information included: population and household projections for Kenosha County and each participating community, projected age composition, vision statement and visioning process, issues and opportunities, and goals and objectives.

Mr. Kania reported that the comprehensive plan would take into account each community’s self-selected projections for population growth. He then asked that each MJAC member review the two projections offered in Table VII-8 with their local jurisdiction. The two projections are based on SEWRPC’s intermediate growth projections from the 2035 Regional Land Use Plan and on trend-based projections of households considering data from 1980 through 2006. Mr. Kania requested that each community report back to SEWRPC with their selected population projection, which could be one the projections given in Table VII-8, or a number selected by the community. The projections selected will be used to complete Table VII-9 on page 6b of the Issues and Opportunities Element.

Kate Madison of SEWRPC reviewed the issues and opportunities, and the overall goals and objectives outlined in Chapter VII - Issues and Opportunities Element. She stated that the issues and opportunities had been identified based on information gathered from the public participation efforts that had been conducted, including the countywide kickoff meeting, Kenosha County Café, and nine local community public informational meetings. Issues included: agricultural and farmland preservation; community character; economic development; education; energy; housing; intergovernmental cooperation; natural resources preservation and protection; planning for future growth and development; public utilities and community facilities; recreational and cultural opportunities; transportation and transit services; and implementation.

Ms. Madison then reviewed the goals and objectives, which she noted were very broad and intended to cover all nine required elements of the comprehensive plan. She further stated that the MJAC could return to these goals and refine or add to them as necessary upon completion of planning element chapters.

Presentation on Vision Statements and committee feedback on developing a Countywide

Vision Statement: Kate Madison explained that a vision statement is intended to be an optimistic vision of the future for the community. She then presented several examples of vision statements from other communities in Wisconsin and other areas of the country. Ms. Madison then offered the committee three possible drafts for a countywide vision statement for Kenosha County. MJAC members agreed upon their most preferred statement. Then Dennis Faber, Jean Werbie, Fred Ekornaas, and Sandie Hansen offered comments and suggestions for changes to the countywide vision statement, which, at the conclusion of the meeting, read as follows:

“From the lakeshore to the prairie, from the urban to the rural communities, Kenosha County seeks to maintain a high quality of life; protect its natural and cultural resources; encourage business, industry, tourism, agricultural, and recreational opportunities; and sustain a healthy and safe future for all its citizens.”

Kate Madison noted that the vision statement, like the rest of the Issues and Opportunities Element, would be revisited throughout the comprehensive planning process.

Status Report on local employment (job) projections: Rick Kania explained that, like the population projections, the 2035 employment projections would be selected by each participating local government. Again, communities were provided projections based on SEWRPC's intermediate growth projections and on trend data analysis to assist them in selecting a projection for their community. The projections selected by each community will be compiled in Table XIII-19 and will be added to Chapter XIII on page 22.

Citizen Comments: Jean Werbie noted that MJAC members would prefer to review the population and household projections with their local communities, and to see the completed projections for Kenosha County, prior to taking action on Draft Chapter VII.

Any Other Business Allowed by Law: None

Next Meeting Date: Fred Ekornaas announced that the next MJAC meeting would be held on January 29, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in the Kenosha County Center Hearing Room.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Dennis Faber, seconded by Bill Morris, and passed unanimously by a voice vote of the MJAC members. The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Approved: January 29, 2008