



Implementation & Intergovernmental Cooperation

Implementation

The comprehensive planning law, which is often referred to as the Smart Growth law, was enacted by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1999. The law requires that comprehensive plans be adopted by January 1, 2010, by the governing bodies of counties, cities, villages, and towns for a County or local government to enforce zoning, subdivision, or official mapping regulations.

The design date for the new County comprehensive plan is 2035. There will be nine elements addressed in the plan, as required by State law:

- Issues and Opportunities
- Land Use
- Housing
- Transportation
- Utilities and Community Facilities
- Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources
- Economic Development
- Intergovernmental Cooperation
- Implementation

Zoning and subdivision ordinances are the commonly used tools for implementing long-range land use plans (such as the comprehensive plan). Other important tools include boundary agreements and official mapping ordinances.

In 1983, the Kenosha County Board adopted a comprehensive amendment to the Kenosha County General Zoning and Shoreland/Floodplain Zoning Ordinance. The ordinance regulates land uses, buildings, and other structures in the Town. The ordinance includes 29 basic zoning districts and seven overlay districts, and is administered by the Kenosha County Department of Planning and Development in cooperation with the Town.

The Kenosha County general zoning and zoning map must be consistent with the comprehensive plan by January 1, 2010.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

A city and village have authority under State law to approve or reject subdivision plats located in its extraterritorial plat review area. The Town of Brighton is under the extraterritorial plat approval authority of the Village of Paddock Lake for all lands within 1.5 miles from the Village's corporate boundary.

Under State law, a city or village may enact an extraterritorial zoning ordinance and map for adjoining unincorporated areas lying within its extraterritorial plat review area. The city or village must follow a procedure that involves the adjoining town before enacting a permanent extraterritorial zoning ordinance. The Village of Paddock Lake has not enacted an extraterritorial zoning ordinance and map that affects the Town of Brighton.

Wisconsin Statutes allows any combination of cities, villages, and towns to cooperatively determine the boundary lines between themselves under a cooperative plan. The cooperative plan must identify agreed-upon boundary changes and existing boundaries that will not change during the planning period; identify any conditions that must be met before a boundary change may occur; include a schedule of the period during which a boundary change shall or may occur; and specify arrangements for the provision of urban services to the territory covered by the plan. The Town of Brighton does not currently have any cooperative boundary agreements with surrounding municipalities.