



## **Implementation & Intergovernmental Cooperation**

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### **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. Under the terms of approved boundary agreements, the City of Kenosha and Village of Pleasant Prairie have limited extraterritorial plat approval authority in the Town of Bristol.

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. Neither the City of Kenosha nor the Village of Pleasant Prairie have enacted an extraterritorial zoning ordinance and map that affects the Town of Bristol.



KENOSHA COUNTY  
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

**TOWN OF BRISTOL**  
FACT SHEET

*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. Existing boundary agreements include:

- ***Village of Pleasant Prairie and Town of Bristol*** - The Village and Town of Bristol entered into a boundary agreement in 1997. The agreement resolves contested annexation, commercial development, and sewer service area issues. This agreement defined an ultimate, permanent boundary between the Village and Town and established a “Village Growth Area” within the Town and adjacent to the Village which would be transferred over 30 years to the Village. The plan consolidates a variety of preexisting sanitary sewer and water agreements, and provides village sewer and water service to portions of the Town. The agreement also addresses revenue sharing, establishes limits on the Village’s exercise of land use controls within the Town, and requires Village support of a possible future Town incorporation attempt. This agreement is currently being revised to reflect changes in the sanitary sewer and water agreements.
- ***City of Kenosha, Village of Pleasant Prairie, and Town of Bristol*** - This cooperative boundary agreement (established in 2000) resolves contested annexation, commercial development, and sewer service area issues. The cooperative boundary agreement acts as an umbrella agreement, coordinating more specific agreements between the individual municipalities.
- ***City of Kenosha and Town of Bristol*** - The City and Town of Bristol entered into a cooperative boundary agreement in 2000. The agreement involves the transition of territory in the Town of Bristol called the “City Growth Area” into the City of Kenosha by the year 2030. The agreement included the provision of City water and sewer services to portions of the Town and limitations on the City’s use of zoning, subdivision, and official mapping as extraterritorial regulatory tools in the Town.