

Introduction

Intergovernmental cooperation involves working with neighboring communities, County government, and State agencies to understand how their future planning activities will impact the Town of Clearfield. At a minimum, this involves sharing information about Clearfield’s Plan with neighboring communities and agencies and vice versa.

Intergovernmental Vision

By 2030, the Town of Clearfield has partnered with neighboring communities and the county when feasible and in the best interest of the citizens of Clearfield to provide cost-effective services and programs to residents and landowners. Effective planning has assisted the Town in maintaining reasonable local tax rates while preserving the resources valued by the community without infringing unnecessarily on personal property rights.

Wisconsin’s Comprehensive Planning Law includes fourteen goals for local comprehensive planning. The goals listed below specifically relate to planning for intergovernmental cooperation:

- Encouragement of land uses, densities and regulations that promote efficient development patterns and relatively low municipal, State governmental and utility costs.
- Providing an integrated, efficient and economical transportation system that affords mobility, convenience and safety and that meets the needs of all citizens, including transit-dependent and disabled citizens.

Visions, Objectives, Policies, and Goals

Wisconsin’s Comprehensive Planning Law requires that the Intergovernmental Cooperation Element contain a compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps, and programs for joint planning and decision making with other jurisdictions, including school districts and adjacent local governmental units, for siting and building public facilities and sharing public services. The element shall analyze the relationship of the local governmental unit to school districts and adjacent local governmental units, and to the region, the state, and other governmental units. The element shall consider, to the greatest extent feasible, the maps and plans of any military base or installation, with at least 200 assigned military personnel or that contains at least 2,000 acres, with which the local governmental unit shares common territory. The element shall incorporate any plans or agreements to which the local governmental unit is party under s. 66.0301, 66.0307, or 66.0309. The element shall identify existing or potential conflicts between the local governmental unit and other governmental units that are specified in this paragraph and describe processes to resolve such conflicts.

The Comprehensive Planning Law requires that the Town of Clearfield coordinate planning activities with:

- Juneau County
- Town of Cutler
- Town of Fountain
- Town of Germantown
- Town of Necedah
- Town of Orange

- Town of Lisbon
- Necedah and New Lisbon School Districts
- North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
- Wisconsin Department of Administration
- Western Technical College Mauston Campus
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Existing Intergovernmental Activities and Partners

Many current intergovernmental programs may have an effect upon the Town of Clearfield. This section provides a summary of some of these programs.

Adjacent Governmental Units

- Towns of Cutler, Fountain, Germantown, Necedah, Lisbon and Orange

Clearfield's relationship with neighboring Towns can be characterized as one of mutual respect. These communities share a common history, social culture, and rural character with Clearfield. Since Towns cannot annex land from one another, boundary disputes are uncommon. Public services such as road maintenance and construction are conducted individually by each community. However, as mutually beneficial opportunities for shared services arise, the Town of Clearfield is open to considering shared services options.

School Districts

The Town of Clearfield and the Necedah and New Lisbon School Districts recognize the significant roles each play in the others' future. Each is dependent upon the other, to varying degrees, to ensure a healthy long-term future. The school district and the challenges it faces were discussed in detail in *Chapter 4: Utilities & Community Facilities*. With respect to intergovernmental cooperation, opportunities were identified during the planning effort to strengthen relations between the Town of Clearfield and the School Districts. Specific goals and objectives to help realize several of these opportunities are included in the Intergovernmental Cooperation section of *Chapter 10: Implementation*.

Juneau County

Juneau County provides many programs, services, and facilities to Clearfield and its residents. Those that most directly affect Clearfield include:

- County highway maintenance and improvement programs.
- Library funding support (to help cover the costs of County residents who use the library).
- Social services.
- Land use planning and mapping assistance.

In those areas where Juneau County has jurisdiction (i.e. shoreland zoning), the County consults the Town before making decisions affecting Clearfield. During the planning process, additional communication with the County was identified as a priority, particularly with respect to County road improvement projects. Future communication will also be especially important as it relates to:

- Zoning
- Land Divisions
- Stormwater management
- Coordination with the Juneau County Comprehensive Plan
- Public safety

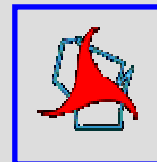
State Agencies

- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT)
- Wisconsin State Historical Society
- US Army Corps of Engineers

WDNR and WisDOT are the primary State agencies with whom Clearfield must coordinate to achieve the goals and objectives of this Plan.

WDNR takes a lead role in wildlife protection and the sustainable management of woodlands, stormwater regulations, wetlands, State parks, and other natural wildlife habitat areas.

WisDOT is a key player in the planning and development of highways in the Town and region. Clearfield has a good relationship with WisDOT and will continue to work with them, particularly with respect to ongoing and future work within the STH 58 and STH 80 corridors. The Town will continue to communicate with WisDOT about land use and transportation decisions made locally.



For additional information about WisDOT activities in the Town of Clearfield, refer to *Chapter 5: Transportation*. Additional information is also available online at: www.dot.state.wi.us

Intergovernmental Comprehensive Planning Process

To facilitate a planning environment open to intergovernmental cooperation, all Plan documents, including text and maps, were available throughout the plan program for review and comment to ensure the widest range of public participation and input from overlapping and neighboring jurisdictions as well as any other interested entity or individual. The Town also coordinated with Juneau County and NCWRPC to obtain mapping resources as well as information from existing Plan documents.

More than thirty days prior to the public hearing, all intergovernmental partners were directed to the project website for copies of the recommended Plan and asked to provide comments. Comments received prior to and during the public hearing were entered into the record for the planning process.

Existing and Proposed Plans

Local Comprehensive Plans

The communities adjoining the Town of Clearfield are in various stages of the comprehensive planning process. Juneau County is in the process of developing the County Comprehensive Plan and has coordinated updates to local existing land use maps with all of its municipalities. The current status of comprehensive planning efforts in adjoining communities follows:

- Juneau County – Plan in process with anticipated adoption in December 2009.
- Town of Cutler – Plan approved and adopted in 2008.
- Town of Fountain – Plan in process with anticipated adoption in November 2009.
- Town of Germantown – Plan completed and adopted in March 2008.
- Town of Necedah – Plan in process with anticipated adoption in December 2009.
- Town of Orange – Plan completed and adopted in December 2006.
- Town of Lisbon- Plan in process with anticipated adoption in 2009.

School Districts

At this time, the school districts have no plans to construct new facilities within the Town of Clearfield. In order to facilitate future school district planning efforts, this Plan recommends that the Town continue to work with the Districts on future facilities and studies. To further facilitate school district planning, this Plan has been made available to the districts as a tool to aid in projecting future school enrollments from the Town of Clearfield.

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

NCWRPC is a unit of government that interacts with the Town and County on planning related projects as well as transit, trail, and recreational activities coordination. With Juneau County as a

member of the Commission, all the Towns, Villages and Cities in the County became members allowing NCWRPC to provide technical assistance as requested on a wide range of issues.

State Agencies

WDNR takes a lead role in wildlife protection and the protection and sustained management of woodlands, wetlands and other natural wildlife habitat areas. These priorities are reflected in the Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources section of *Chapter 10: Implementation*.

The WisDOT has completed a series of statewide planning documents for use in the development of local Comprehensive Plans. These documents include plans for the State highway corridors, bicycle corridors, rail corridors, and air transportation. The plans were used as a starting point when preparing *Chapter 3: Transportation* of this Plan.

Current Intergovernmental Agreement

Clearfield currently contracts with the New Lisbon Fire Department and Necedah Fire Department for fire protection. Forest fire protection is also provided by the Wisconsin DNR. Ambulance services are contracted currently with Camp Douglas Rescue and Necedah EMS Service. Law enforcement protection is provided by the Juneau County Sheriff's Department and the Wisconsin DNR. Clearfield currently has road maintenance and plowing agreements with the Town of Lisbon, the Town of Necedah and the Town of Orange.

Relationship to Other Comprehensive Plan Chapters

Intergovernmental Cooperation weaves its ways into every chapter of this Plan. Regional housing demand and supplies determine the market for housing in the Town of Clearfield. Transportation improvements made to County and State highways have the potential to affect land use and development patterns in the Town. Likewise, the Town's ability to expand economically depends on quality services being provided, not only by the Town, but also its intergovernmental partners (i.e. schools, police, fire, etc.). Moreover, the Town's ability to support development opportunities at its perimeter must be coordinated with neighboring communities to ensure compatibility with adjacent land uses.

Intergovernmental Goals, Objectives, and Policies

The goals, and objectives, and policies related to Intergovernmental Cooperation in the Town of Clearfield can be found in *Chapter 10: Implementation*.