

Spring 2003

Volume 2003, Number 2

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Upper Midwest Planning Conference

SAVE THE DATE!! October 23-24, 2003

Midwest Airlines Center, Milwaukee

The Upper Midwest Planning Conference will be hosted by the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Planning Association (WAPA) in 2003. The conference is scheduled for Thursday and Friday October 23rd and 24th, 2003 at the Midwest Airline Center in downtown Milwaukee. Conference program details will be posted in late summer, but please MARK YOUR CALENDARS to hold these dates.

A conference committee is beginning to meet to develop the program and activities. If you have questions regarding conference planning progress, please contact Thomas Favour, WAPA Conference Coordinator at (608) 238-4943 or by mail to 118 Marinette Trail, Madison, WI 53705.

WAPANews is published four times each year by the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Planning Association to facilitate discussion among its members of planning issues in Wisconsin. Correspondence should be sent to:

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Change of Address: WAPA News does not maintain the address lists for any APA publication. All lists are maintained at the national office and are updated and mailed to the chapters each month. If you have moved, please contact Member Services Coordinator, APA National Headquarters, 122 S. Michigan Street, Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60603-6107 or call (312) 431-9100 or FAX (312) 431-9985.

Membership Information: To become a member of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Planning Association, simply become a member of the APA. An application form is provided on the back of this publication.

Professional Services Directory: Put your business in the newsletter. Advertising rates are \$40.00 per issue or \$150.00 per year. Send business card or camera-ready copy (2 inches wide x 3.5 inches long) to the newsletter editor at the address below. Digital copy may be sent as an attachment by email to wapa@uwm.edu.

Submission of Articles: WAPA News welcomes articles, letters to the editor, articles from the WAPA districts, calendar listings, etc. Please send anything that may be of interest to other professional planners in Wisconsin. Articles may be submitted by mail, fax, or email. Articles may be edited for readability and space limitations prior to publication. Content of articles does not necessarily represent the position of APA, the WAPA Executive Committee, or the editor.

Submit articles in electronic formats: Articles may be submitted on 3.5 inch floppy disks, CD-ROM, or via email. If submitting the article by email, send it to wapa@uwm.edu.

Graphics: Graphics are encouraged for inclusion with the article in paper or electronic format. Please be sure that graphics submitted in paper format are crisp and clear.

Calendar listings: Although the WAPA News is published only 4 times annually, the web page at www.wisconsinplanners.org provides instant access to information about events of interest to planners. If you are aware of an event, please contact the editor as soon as possible, preferably at least 1 week before the event. If submitting calendar events by mail, email, or voicemail, please be sure to include the sponsor of the event, the date, time, and place, and the title of the event, along with a description including any admission fees or limitations in availability.

Deadlines:

Winter issue: submit by January 15. Spring issue: submit by March 15 Summer issue: submit by June 15 Fall issue: submit by September 15

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WAPA News is printed on recycled paper.

Wisconsin Commercial Real Estate Women Announce 2003 Real Estate Development Showcase Awards



By MICHELE HORST, CPA, WCREW PRESIDENT

We are pleased to sponsor the third WCREW Real Estate Development Showcase Awards in 2003. This is our chance to showcase some of the great real estate projects in Wisconsin. We look forward to having you participate this year.

This year our nomination process is

easier than ever. For each project, we request both a Notice of Nomination and a Formal Nomination. If you wish to nominate a project with which you are affiliated, you may choose to submit both documents. If you know of a great project but are not in a position to provide a detailed Formal Nomination, you may submit only the Notice of Nomination, and we will solicit a Formal Nomination from someone familiar with the project.

To give a Notice of Nomination, simply submit your name, your contact information and the name and location of the project you wish to nominate. You may use the form for the Notice of Nomination (see WAPA webpage, www.wisconsinplanners.org) but the form is not required. Please submit the notice before August 1, 2003, or earlier if you wish WCREW to solicit a Formal Nomination.

Projects with Formal Nominations delivered prior to 5: 00 p.m. on August 15, 2003 will be submitted to the judges for consideration. We will showcase all projects that are formally nominated at the awards dinner.

Please make plans now to attend the 2003 Real Estate Development Showcase Awards dinner at 6:00 p.m. on October 23, 2003 at the Country Inn, 2810 Golf Road, Waukesha, Wisconsin.

La Crosse: Building on Success

By Jason Valerius University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

Through much of the nineteenth century, the City of La Crosse was a thriving center of shipping and commerce. Founded where the Black and La Crosse Rivers flow into the Mississippi, the port attracted significant steamboat traffic and La Crosse became Milwaukee's connection to the mighty Mississippi via railroad in 1858. The heavy flow of people and goods gave birth to a vital downtown commercial district. The structures were, in the words of Mark Twain, "stately enough and also architecturally fine enough to command respect in any city." Twain declared the city "choice" in his 1896 book "Life on the Mississippi". Enter the automobile. Rail and river traffic declined as roads proliferated, and the city began to decline in importance as a hub of commerce. When U.S. 90 was constructed in the 1960s it crossed the river north of the city and pulled interstate traffic out of the downtown. Businesses began relocating to the freeway corridor. The death blow came in 1978 with the building of a mall next to the freeway. Many of the remaining downtown shops quickly fled to the mall. Corporate employers also continued to leave. Stately brick buildings sat dirty and empty. The downtown was dead.



But the familiar story comes to a happy ending in La Crosse.

After two decades of failed attempts to rekindle interest in the downtown, redevelopment efforts caught fire in the 1990s. The process began in 1990 when local business leaders formed the non-profit Downtown Mainstreet Inc. After two slow years without significant progress, they finally achieved the element that had been missing in the previous decades of effort: real cooperation between the business community and local government.

Out of this public/private partnership was born the City Vision 2000 Master Plan. Adopted in 1993, the plan established the ambitious goal of refocusing the regional economy around downtown La Crosse through the creation of jobs and tourism. The effort gained significant momentum in 1994 with the creation of a downtown TIF district and a National Historic Register District designation by the National Register of Historic Places. The TIF provided funding for streetscaping while the historic designation facilitated building restorations by property owners. The real stroke of luck was in getting all of these things to happen in conjunction with the surging Nineties economy.

A decade later, the downtown is reborn. Over 100 façade restorations, 65 block faces of streetscaping, 200 new residential units, and more than 2,500 new jobs are transforming the downtown. A city-built mixed use project includes 62 condo units, 650 parking spaces, and retail space at street level. A \$3 million levee improvement project created a riverwalk and new boat docking facility. La Crosse is once again a Port of Call for steamboat tourism.

Recognition for these successes came last year with a Great American Main Street Award by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. (*Note to planners seeking similar recognition in your community: persistence pays. La Crosse applied four times in five years to get their award.)

This outcome is indeed happy, but much work remains to be done. City Planner Larry Kirch points to adult bookstores and roofless buildings. He anticipates another 10 years of work before the downtown area is fully revitalized.

At the same time, Mr. Kirch worries about flagging interest in the project. Citing a lack of excitement about the Main Street Award and low attendance at TIF meetings, he feels the continued success of the redevelopment process and of the downtown itself is now taken for granted by many people. Many city council members are now more concerned about their individual neighborhoods. Many property owners are now more concerned about taxes.

The concern about keeping the momentum going appears justified. Mr. Kirch himself is also working on other projects. His

favorite accomplishment as city planner, a job he has held since 1993, is a program he helped launch last year—the Blufflands Protection Program. Another public/private partnership, the program funnels public funds to the Mississippi Valley Conservancy, which buys land and easements from willing landowners and transfers them to the city to be managed as parkland. The goal is to prevent development on the high bluffs overlooking the city.

Another major project currently on the table is redevelopment of a 50-acre collection of brownfield properties at the edge of the downtown area. The site is presently dominated by a 25-acre Exxon Mobile tank farm, and the company

has sued in an attempt to halt the city's acquisition of the site. Mr. Kirch is confident that the lawsuit will be quickly resolved, and he plans to issue an RFP to planners and land-scape architects to facilitate a public charrette for the site.

The risk in redeveloping this site is that it could hurt



the downtown if executed poorly. An office complex on the site could undermine the past 10 years of effort to recruit jobs into the historic downtown. In organizing a public

participation process for this site, Mr. Kirch hopes to both engage citizens and generate public support for a program that complements rather than competes with the downtown.

Maintaining focus on a single goal over multiple decades is a difficult task for many people. Getting a group of business owners, public officials, and citizens to do so is an immense challenge. The La Crosse renaissance began because severe problems motivated grass roots action by the business community. Now that the most severe problems have been addressed, it appears to be up to Mr. Kirch and his department to keep the process moving in a positive direction.

Current work in support of this effort includes continued streetscaping and a market analy-

sis for the downtown by the local UW Extension. Mr. Kirch expects the market analysis to confirm the widespread belief that downtown has too many bars and not enough specialty retail shops. He hopes that the study will suggest types of retail to encourage. For the long term, Mr. Kirch has been

lobbying for the acquisition of an inventory of properties that can quickly be made available for redevelopment as opportunities arise.

But the key to continued success is continued commitment by both the public officials and the private landowners. Toward this end, Mr. Kirch is planning a meeting to reintroduce everyone involved to the comprehensive plan. To remind everyone where they've been, where they're going, and what they need to do to get there.

Good luck Larry!

For more info on La Crosse go to : www.cityoflacrosse.org or

see Ann Jablonski's article in the March 2003 issue of The Municipality. The author thanks Larry Kirch for his contributions to the story.



Smithgroup JJR Receives Award For Honey Creek Resort **State Park**

Madison, Wisconsin, January 31, 2003 - Smith-Group JJR, the nationally prominent planning, design, and engineering firm recently received an Honor Award from the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA) for outstanding performance on the master plan prepared for the Honey Creek Resort State Park located in south-central Iowa. The award was presented at the WASLA Professional Awards Banquet on Friday, Janu-



ary 31, at the University of Wisconsin's Aboretum. Project manager, Robert Balas, ASLA, received the award on behalf of the firm.

Sustainable recreation master planning for the Honey Creek Resort State Park focuses on designing within the sensitive context of a remnant prairie community with numerous species of special concern. This collaborative

effort between SmithGroup JJR and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development, calls for the creation of a prairie preserve, habitat restoration, and creative stormwater management while encouraging economic development. The 850-acre site is located on a peninsula within Rathbun Lake, a regional flood control and water conservation reservoir operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project includes a lodge and conference center, 18-hole golf course and clubhouse, park activity center, aquatic center, boat launch, equestrian center, cabins, campground, swimming beach, and recreational trail system.

SmithGroup JJR (www.smithgroupjjr.com) professionals provide idea-driven planning, design and environmental services for the natural and built environment. A member of SmithGroup, Inc., SmithGroup JJR has offices in Madison, Wisconsin; Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Chicago, Illinois with professional staff including urban designers, landscape architects, planners, civil engineers, and environmental scientists.

GIS Changes at UWM

Beginning in Fall 2003, the Department of Urban Planning at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee will offer a new post-baccalaureate certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The new certificate will be available to professionals who have completed a bachelor's degree in any field of study and who seek to enhance their skills in the use of GIS for geographic inventory and analysis. Students in the certificate program will be required to take 18 credits of coursework in GIS-related courses in urban planning and other programs.

The new certificate is designed especially for individuals seeking to become GIS professionals or seeking to upgrade their GIS skills. Job titles for recipients of this certificate would include "GIS Specialist," "GIS Analyst," or "GIS Coordinator."

For those students interested in obtaining the master of urban planning degree, a new concentration in GIS has been created. Students completing the concentration will receive a special designation on their transcripts.

Department of Urban Planning is recognized nationally by GIS professionals and prospective students as one of the best nationally for GIS-related education. Since 1993, fortytwo students have earned the certificate. Bill Huxhold, the originator of the certificate program, has earned an international reputation for his pathbreaking work in implementing GIS in local government. Zhong-Ren Peng is also known internationally for his research on Internet GIS and other GIS applications. Our GIS graduates have gone on to successful careers, both in planning and in GIS development.

The Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) is about to initiate a professional certification

program in geographic information systems (www.gisci.org) that will include points for the courses that we offer.

GIS is becoming an increasingly specialized and growing field, providing spatial data management and analysis services to a broad range of business and public organizations. In 1999, *US News* identified the occupation as one of the "21 hot jobs for the 21st century," claiming the number of GIS positions in local government alone will rise from 20,000 to 36,000 in the next decade.

The Geospatial Information and Technology Association (GITA) announced that it will encourage educational institutions to offer GIS degrees and certificates as "stand alone" programs rather than as part of other academic disciplines.

The program includes 12 credits of core courses on the structure of geographic data, components for managing geographic information systems, spatial analysis, and delivery of geographic information through maps and displays. An additional 6 credits of electives are taken in coursework to remote sensing, map-making, data management systems, or internship.

vice at less than cost its competitors, in part because DeWitt already had someone monitoring the legislature. In addition, the firm is willing to help grow WAPA's membership and to provide fund-raising assistance.

In addition to his extensive legal experience, Mr. Christopher served as an alderperson in the City of Madison for over eight years. He has also served on the Dane County Lakes and Watershed Commission and the Madison Police and Fire Commission. Currently, Mr. Christopher serves on the Board of Directors of Downtown Madison, Inc.

Mr. Christopher will track legal actions in Wisconsin related to planning as well as fielding phone calls and emails from WAPA members regarding legal issues, referring them, as necessary, to appropriate legal counsel within the firm.

In addition to the services of Mr. Christopher as legal counsel, the contract with Dewitt Ross & Stevens will include the services of Jordan Lamb to provide state legislative tracking and monitoring. Ms. Lamb is an associate attorney in the firm's Capitol Square office who spent three years as a lobbyist prior to attending law school.

Law Update WAPA Legislative Update

New WAPA Legal Counsel Appointed

WAPA president Gary Peterson announced on April 3 that Michael Christopher with the firm of Dewitt Ross & Stevens in Madison will be WAPA legal counsel, effective immediately. The WAPA Executive Committee issued



an RFP in February to open up the position of legal counsel to competitive bid. Five firms submitted proposals.

The board reviewed all of the proposals at its March meeting and selected three finalists. The board appointed a subcommittee to interview each of the finalists and select the attorney to become legal counsel.

According to Gary Peterson, Michael Christopher expressed a sincere interest in representing the Chapter. His firm, DeWitt Ross & Stevens is providing a high quality ser-

By Jordan K. Lamb DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C. April 16, 2003

A. 2003-05 Biennial Budget

1. Budget Procedure and Process

On Wednesday, April 8, 2003, the Joint Finance Committee wrapped up a series of six statewide public hearings on Governor Doyle's 2003-05 biennial budget (introduced as Senate Bill 44). During these hearings, the Committee heard more than 48 hours of testimony from hundreds of witnesses.

The Joint Finance Committee, which is made up of 16 members of the State Legislature – 8 Senators (6 Republicans and 2 Democrats) and 8 Representatives (6 Republicans and 2 Democrats) – will begin to hold executive sessions on the Governor's budget bill on Monday, April 22, 2003. In these executive sessions, the Committee will amend the Governor's proposed budget and will introduce a comprehensive substitute amendment for both houses of the legislature to consider. (For a list of the legislators who sit on the Joint Finance Committee, go to https://www.legis.state.wi.us/lfb/jfc/jfcmembership.html on the Internet).

2. Relevant Budget Issues – Reduction in Shared Revenue

In his biennial budget, Governor Doyle proposed a significant reduction in shared revenue and related state aid payments to municipalities. In 2002, \$1,029.4 million in unrestricted state aid was paid to municipalities and counties under the shared revenue, expenditure restraint, county mandate relief, and small municipalities shared revenue programs. For 2003, the 2001-03 biennial budget authorized a 1% increase in each of the programs, resulting in a total funding level of \$1,039.7 million.¹

Under current law, beginning in 2004, payments to municipalities and counties will be made under a new program entitled "county and municipal aid." Each municipality and county will receive a payment in 2004 based on the sum of its payments in 2003 under the shared revenue, small municipalities shared revenue, and county mandate relief programs.

In the 2003-05 biennial budget bill, the Governor proposes to reduce the combined payments under the shared revenue, county mandate relief, and small municipalities shared revenue programs in 2003 and the payments under the county and municipal aid program in 2004. Total payments in 2003 would be reduced by \$10 million, with the reduction taken half from the payments to municipalities and half from the payments to counties. In 2004, \$80 million in reductions would be applied in two steps. First, the \$40 million reduction authorized under current law would be increased to \$50 million, with the additional \$10 million reduction divided equally among the payments to municipalities (\$5 million) and counties (\$5 million). Second, \$70 million in reductions would be taken from payments to municipalities.

The Governor's proposed "per capita" approach to allocating shared revenue, which would allocate a higher percentage of the shared revenue cut to smaller units of government, is unlikely to be accepted by the Republican majority in the Legislature. A return to the existing system of allocation is more likely.

B. Stand-Alone Legislation

1. Assembly Bill 136 - Charter Towns

Assembly Bill 136, introduced on March 6, 2003 by Representative Carol Owens (a Republican from the 53rd Assembly District), authorizes a town board to exercise village powers to adopt a resolution (subject to ratification in a referendum that the town board must call) declaring that it is a "charter town." In addition, under certain circumstances, the town board may create a tax incremental financing ("TIF") district. Finally, this bill also allows a charter town boards to exercise certain zoning powers, and exempts the town from being subject to certain city and village extraterritorial zoning or plat approval.

Requirements for a charter town include: (1) a population of at least 2,500; (2) equalized value exceeding \$100 million; (3) provide sewer and/or water to at least 10% of its population; and (4) have twenty-four hour law enforcement.

According to the Department of Administration, about 135 Wisconsin towns currently qualify to become "charter towns."

A public hearing was held on AB 136 on April 10, 2003 before the Assembly Committee on Rural Affairs. The Committee did not hold an executive session (e.g., vote) on the legislation at that hearing. (NOTE: The chairperson of the Assembly Committee on Rural Affairs is Representative Eugene Hahn, a Republican from the 47th Assembly District.)

For more information and public reaction to AB 136, please see the following:

"Bill would let towns avoid annexation," by Amy Rinard, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, March 31, 2003. Available online at

http://www.jsonline.com/news/state/mar03/130035.asp

"Don't Expand Town Powers," Wisconsin State Journal Opinion, April 8, 2003, section A8. Available online at:

http://www.madison.com/archives/
read.php?ref=wsj:2003:04:08:263470:OPINION

League of Wisconsin Municipalities, Legislative Bulletin, No. 2003-13 - 4/4/2003

Available online at: http://www.lwm-info.org/

2. Assembly Bill 130 – Alternative Method for Town Consolidation

Assembly Bill 130, introduced on March 6, 2003 by Representative Bonnie Ladwig (a Republican from the 63rd Assembly District), creates another method for certain towns to consolidate with other municipalities. Under this bill, all or part of a town (to which a number of specifications applies) may consolidate with a contiguous municipality if a consolidation ordinance is passed by a two-thirds vote of the governing bodies of each municipality, and if the ordinance is ratified by the electors in a referendum in each municipality.

The specifications that must apply to a town to enable it to consolidate include the following:

- (1) The town must be a party to an intergovernmental cooperation agreement under which the town's residents must receive, or have access to, sewage disposal services; public health services; police, fire, and emergency services; library services; animal control services; and park services.
- (2) The town must be a party to an intergovernmental cooperation agreement that relates to the ownership or leasing of government buildings.
- (3) The city or village with which the town wishes to consolidate enters into a boundary agreement with every

Continued on page 10



Purpose

To give recognition to outstanding achievements in planning and to publicize persons and organizations whose activities advance planning in Wisconsin.

Eligibility

A WAPA or an APA member must submit the application. Planning Document and Plan Implementation nominations must be for projects located in Wisconsin and must have included a WAPA or an APA member throughout the planning process. Elected Official of the Year and Citizen Planner of the Year nominees must live and work in Wisconsin. Outstanding Journalism nominations must have a reporter from – and a story about – a Wisconsin community. No project may be considered if a member of the Jury – or his/her organization – had a role in planning or implementing a project.

Categories

Planning

Planning Document

- □ Large Jurisdiction (20,000 or larger population)
- ☐ Medium Jurisdiction (5,000 to 19,999 population)
- □ Small Jurisdiction (4,999 or smaller population)

Plan Implementation

- □ Large Jurisdiction (20,000 or larger population)
- ☐ Medium Jurisdiction (5,000 to 19,999 population)
- □ Small Jurisdiction (4,999 or smaller population)

Individual

- □ Elected Official of the Year
- Citizen Planner of the Year

Media

Outstanding Journalism

Judging Criteria

Planning

- 1. Originality/Innovation
- 2. Transferability
- 3. Quality
- 4. Comprehensiveness
- 5. Public Participation
- 6. Role of Planners
- 7. Effectiveness/Results
- 8. Intergovernmental Cooperation

Individual and Media

- 1. Support of Planning/Planners
- 2. Effectiveness/Results

Questions

For more information on the 2003 WAPA Awards program, please visit the WAPA web site at http://www.wisconsinplanners.org or contact:

Carrie Johnson, AICP At-Large Representative 2000 North Calhoun Road Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005

Phone: 262-787-3583

Email: johnsonc@ci.brookfield.wi.us (Subject Line: "2003 WAPA Awards")

Entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, August 1, 2003** and submitted to: 2003 WAPA Awards, c/o Carrie Johnson, AICP, 2000 North Calhoun Road, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005

*** Keep a copy for your records. ***



I nominate

2003 Wisconsin Chapter of the American Planning Association **Awards Application Form**

Entries for the 2003 WAPA Awards are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 1, 2003. Materials received after this date will be discarded.

for a 2003 WAPA Award in the category of			
-			
NI			
Nominator			
I certify that the credited parties performed the			
submitted work and meet all eligibility requirements.			
G: 4 (D)			
Signature/Date			
Print Name			
APA Membership Number			
Address			
City/State/Zip			
Phone/Fax			
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How Associated with the Nomination			
Nomination			
Project Address/Location			
1 Toject Address/ Education			
or			
Address of Individual Nominee or Media Contact			
City/State/Zip			
Phone/Fax			
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Email			

Submission Requirements

The following attachments are mandatory. If any attachment is omitted, the application will not be considered. Five (5) collated sets of the following are required in order for the application to be considered for an award:

- 1. 2003 WAPA Awards Application Form.
- 2. A three-ring binder up to one (1) inch in thickness containing all the required attachments including a "CD-ROM Page" to hold CD-ROM media within the binder.
- 3. An Executive Summary of the nomination (onepage maximum).
- 4. A two-page explanation of how the nomination meets the judging criteria for the Planning, Individual or Media categories.
- 5. One (1) to five (5) one-page letters in support of the nomination.
- 6. For the **Planning** categories: The adopted Planning Document or Plan Implementation Document, ten (10) slides in 8.5 x 11 format – highlighting the project with a brief caption for each image – plus one (1) portrait of each WAPA/APA member of the project team. Also, the document, slides and images must be provided digitally on CD-ROM media in .pdf, .ppt and .jpg formats.
- For the **Individual** categories: One (1) portrait of the individual nominee and up to five (5) slides in 8.5 x 11 format – highlighting the work of the individual with a brief caption for each image. Also, the portrait and slides must be provided digitally on CD-ROM media in .jpg and .ppt formats.
- 8. For the **Media** category: One (1) essay, document, article, article series, or transcript that best represents the nomination. Also, the text and any associated images must be provided digitally on CD-ROM media in .doc and .jpg formats.

Entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 1, 2003 and submitted to: 2003 WAPA Awards, c/o Carrie Johnson, AICP, 2000 North Calhoun Road, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005

*** Keep a copy for your records. ***

municipality that borders the proposed consolidated city or village.

- (4) The consolidating town and municipality enter into an agreement to adopt jointly a comprehensive plan. The plan must take effect before the consolidation may take effect.
- (5) If less than an entire town consolidates with a municipality, the consolidation may not take effect unless the town enters into an agreement with a municipality that shares a border with the town remnant under which the town remnant becomes part of the municipality with a common boundary.

A public hearing was held on AB 130 before the Assembly Committee on Urban and Local Affairs on April 8, 2003. The Committee did not hold an executive session (e.g., vote) on the legislation at that time. (NOTE: The Chairperson of the Assembly Committee on Urban and Local Affairs is Representative Scott Gunderson, a Republican from the 83rd Assembly District.)

3. Senate Bill 110 – Town Maps

Current law allows a town to adopt an official map under certain situations if the town is located in a county that has not enacted a county zoning ordinance. Senate Bill 110, introduced on April 9, 2003 by Senator Alan Lasee, a Republican from the 1st Senate District, authorizes a town to adopt an official map at any time, and requires that a county development plan include the official map of any town in the county that has adopted a comprehensive plan, which is defined under current law as a plan that must contain planning elements including the following: housing; transportation; utilities and community facilities; agricultural, natural, and cultural resources; economic development; and land use. Also under the bill, a city's or village's master plan and official map will control in the city's or village's extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction only if an official town map is not part of the county development plan.

SB 110 was referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and Government Reform. No public hearing has yet been scheduled or held on AB 110. (NOTE: The Chairperson for the Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs and Government Reform is Senator Ron Brown, a Republican from the 31st Senate District.)

C. Links and Other Useful Information

To determine who your state legislators are, go to http://www.legis.state.wi.us/waml/ and type in your home address.

For a list of all Wisconsin State Representatives, go to: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/assembly/

asmhomepages.html

For a list of all Wisconsin State Senators, go to: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/senhomepages.html

Footnotes

¹ All budgetary financial information provided in this section is excerpted from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau memorandum from Bob Lang, to Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, dated March 6, 2003.

Conflicts in Wisconsin Planning Law

By David E. Schmidt, Planning Director Winnebago County

Many communities in the state, including Winnebago County, are attempting to develop a Comprehensive Plan based on s. 66.1001 of the state statutes regarding Comprehensive Planning. Winnebago County is working with representatives of its Town and Cities as well as other stakeholder groups and citizens to discuss the variety of planning issues involved in a County Plan. As you may know, these discussions invariably boil down to debates over the issue of control, specifically what local government plan controls over another and how the County Plan should accommodate, by law, the various local government plans.

During our discussions with local communities, we have gotten down to debating some of the provisions in the statutes as it relates to the Comprehensive Planning law as well as sections that it cross-references. In reviewing the statutes, a number of apparent statutory conflicts have arisen in relation to the control issues and the role of the County Plan. These apparent conflicts in the statutes have been pulled together by my staff, pointing out the apparent conflicts (see table on facing page).

A resolution on the interpretation of the apparent conflicts in the statutes may have statewide implications for local government planning. Specifically, implications for County Plan authority and town/city plan authority affecting unincorporated territory. Therefore, Winnebago County felt it would be helpful to inquire with other Counties, County Planning Directors, Wisconsin Counties Association, and the Wisconsin Chapter of APA to see if these same concerns and questions of the planning statutes have already been brought up elsewhere.

The relevant portions of the statutes, along with some commentary, have been posted on the WAPA website. Winnebago County would appreciate anyone providing input on the following questions:

- 1. Has your community or organization attempted to interpret these apparent statutory conflicts?
- 2. If so, how has it been dealt with and/or has there been any legal interpretations, pending amendatory legislation, or Attorney General opinion(s) regarding this?

3. If your community or organization has not been aware of these conflicts in the statutes, would your community/organization be interested in joining together to obtain an Attorney General opinion?

Please respond to the Winnebago County Planning Department using the following email: jbougie@co.winneba go.wi.us or phone: 920-236-4840, or regular mail at Winnebago County Planning Department, 446 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh, WI 54903-2808.

Recent Job Postings

Associate Planner Growth Management Team

Vandewalle & Associates **Madison, Wisconsin**

This associate planning position includes consulting planning responsibilities in community planning and growth management. Clients typically include cities, villages, towns and counties in southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois. This position will prepare community comprehensive plans, lead public participation efforts such as surveys and workshops, draft zoning and subdivision regulations, review site plans and other development proposals, and complete special studies.

The person filling this position may manage both straightforward and complex projects or may assist other project managers on complex projects. Availability for night meetings is required.

Applicants should, at a minimum, have a master's degree in planning or a related field and three years of professional planning experience or a bachelor's degree and five years of professional experience. Applicants with up to twelve years of experience are encouraged to apply.

Applicants should have knowledge and skills in the principles and practice of planning, complex planning issue resolution, public presentation and group facilitation, and written communication. Specific experience in project management, working on projects similar to those required for this position, in Wisconsin and Illinois is also desirable.

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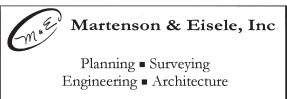


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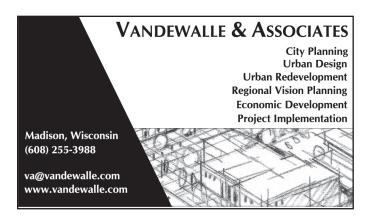
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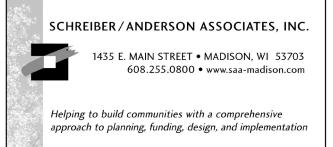




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