



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

for
Racine County
Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan

RACINE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

City of Burlington
City of Racine
Village of Caledonia
Village of Elmwood Park
Village of Mt. Pleasant
Village of North Bay
Village of Rochester
Village of Sturtevant
Village of Union Grove
Village of Waterford
Village of Wind Point
Town of Burlington
Town of Dover
Town of Norway
Town of Raymond
Town of Rochester
Town of Waterford
Town of Yorkville
Racine County

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What is Racine County’s Public Participation Plan?

The public participation plan for the Racine County comprehensive plan is intended to actively involve citizens in the planning process.

At the foundation of the comprehensive plan is the question: “What do you want your community to be?” Recognizing that the people who live, work and play in a community should have input in how that community develops, Wisconsin’s “Smart Growth” Law, Statute 66.1001(4)(a), mandates:

“The governing body of a local governmental unit shall adopt written procedures that are designed to foster public participation, including open discussion, communication programs, information services and public meetings for which advance notice has been provided, in every stage of the preparation of a comprehensive plan. The written procedures shall provide for wide distribution of proposed, alternative, or amended elements of a comprehensive plan and shall provide an opportunity for written comments on the plan to be submitted by members of the public to the governing body and for the governing body to respond to such written comments. The written procedures shall describe the methods the governing body of a local governmental unit will use to distribute proposed, alternative, or amended elements of a comprehensive plan to owners of property, or to persons who have a leasehold interest in property pursuant to which the persons may extract nonmetallic mineral resources in or on property, in which the allowable use or intensity of use of the property is changed by the comprehensive plan.”

Ongoing Public Participation Efforts

Throughout the planning process, efforts will be made to keep the public informed about the comprehensive plan and to secure their input. These include, but are not limited to:

- Smart Growth website (racine.uwex.edu/cnred/SmartGrowth.html)
- Comprehensive planning materials at municipal halls and libraries, including fact sheets and newsletters
- News releases
- Upon request, presentations will be made to Racine County community groups, business or professional organizations, nonprofit agencies, and local governments
- Racine County Multi-Jurisdictional Advisory Committee (MJAC) meetings are open to community members, and public comments are welcome
- Written comments may be provided to the Racine County MJAC, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, Racine County Planning & Development, or Racine County UW-Extension at any time

Public Participation Opportunities

Kickoff Meeting: August 2006

A countywide kickoff meeting for the Racine County Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan will be held in Summer 2006. The meeting will provide background information about the Wisconsin Comprehensive Planning Legislation and the proposed planning process in Racine County.



Countywide Public Opinion Survey: May — July 2007

A countywide, return-mail public opinion survey regarding comprehensive planning issues will be prepared and conducted in Spring 2007. Surveys will be administered to a stratified random sample of registered voters in the County in May 2007; it will also be available at all municipal buildings and public libraries, and through the Smart Growth website. (Results will be tabulated separately.)

Smart Growth Poster Contest: June — July 2007

A poster contest on the theme “Why I Like Where I Live” will be conducted in Summer 2007 to encourage youth participation in the comprehensive planning process. Winning posters will be displayed at the Racine County Fair and may be used in future comprehensive planning documents.

Information Booth at the Racine County Fair: July 2007 and July 2008

A Smart Growth informational booth will be set up at the Racine County Fair, and staffed by members of the Multi-Jurisdictional Advisory Committee, SEWRPC, Racine County Planning & Development and Racine County UW-Extension. Displays will include numerous maps, completed draft plan chapters, comprehensive planning fact sheets and newsletters, and public participation efforts. Interested citizens will have the opportunity to learn about the planning process and to provide comments about the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan.

Informational Meetings: September — November 2007

Four meetings—one in each the west and the central and two in the east half of the County—will be held to present information from the inventory chapters, an analysis of the inventories, and public opinion survey results. A strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis workshop will be conducted to identify the public’s perception of Racine County.

Local Government Meetings: October — July 2008

County, SEWRPC and UW-Extension staff will meet with each local government to review its 2006 existing land use map and prepare the 2035 land use plan map. The local government meetings will also involve identification of overall goals and objectives for each community in order to maintain consistency with the more specific goals and objectives of the county comprehensive plan. This coordinated planning effort will result in consistent land use classifications, policy and program development, and mapping data for all units of government in the County.

Information Open House Meetings: Fall 2008

At least two open house meetings—one in each half of the County—will be held upon completion of drafts of 7 key element chapters (issues and opportunities; housing; transportation; utilities and community facilities; agricultural, natural and cultural resources; economic development; and land use).

Local Community Information and Public Comment Meetings: Fall 2008—Winter 2009

Upon completion of all 9 planning draft chapters, a meeting will be held in each local community to present the document, and to receive public comment. Residents will have the opportunity to review the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan and the recommendations for their community, and to ask questions and provide input in an informal setting.

County Plan Public Hearing: Spring 2009

A public hearing on the recommended comprehensive plan will be held in each participating town, village, and city. Public hearings will include a presentation summarizing the planning process and the plan itself. An official public record including all comments received will be created for each hearing and included in the final draft of the plan. Copies of the recommended plan will be available prior to each public hearing.