

**Minutes of the Twenty-Third Meeting  
Racine County Comprehensive Plan Multi-Jurisdictional Advisory Committee**

**DATE:** March 19, 2009

**TIME:** 6:30 pm

**PLACE:** Racine County Ives Grove Auditorium  
14200 Washington Ave  
Sturtevant, WI

**Attendance:**

Frank Lamm, U.S. Census Bureau  
 Jim Moyer, Town of Yorkville  
 Katie Simenson, City of Burlington  
 Rebecca Ewald, Village of Waterford  
 Audrey Viau, Village of Elmwood Park  
 Tom Roanhouse, Village of Waterford  
 Connie Mellem (Vice-Chairperson), Village of North Bay  
 Mike Weinkauff, Village of Rochester  
 Mark Janiuk, Village of Sturtevant  
 Paul Ryan, Town of Raymond  
 Ingrid Tiegel, Village of Mt. Pleasant  
 Ron Meyer, Village of Mt. Pleasant  
 Viki View-Peterson, Town of Burlington  
 Ken Hall, Racine County Economic Development & Land Use  
 Matt Sadowski, City of Racine  
 Kim Christman, Village of Union Grove  
 Pete Christensen, Village of Wind Point  
 Mary Kacmarcik (Chairperson), Town of Waterford  
 Eric Sandow, Planning & Development  
 Julie Anderson, Planning & Development  
 Dave Schilling, SEWRPC  
 Tom Moes, SEWRPC  
 Kristen Lie, Racine County UW-Extension

**1. Roll Call**

Connie Mellem called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken by circulating a sign-up sheet.

Julie Anderson introduced Frank Lamm of the U.S. Census Bureau, and Eric Sandow, who is currently interning with Racine County Department of Planning & Development. She then requested that approval of the minutes be moved from agenda item two to agenda item three.

**2. Presentation on Census 2010: Complete Count Committees:**

Frank Lamm, U.S. Census Bureau Partnership Specialist, provided a brief overview of how the federal government would like to partner with local municipalities to ensure a complete count for the 2010 Census, including the following steps for each community: designate a liaison person for the Census who will connect with Mr. Lamm; sign an official proclamation to encourage participation in the Census (e.g., declare an official "Census Day"); and create an appropriate Complete Count Committee.

Mark Janiuk noted that the Village of Sturtevant had received a separate communication from the Census Bureau's regional office in Chicago, and asked whether the effort would be coordinated to streamline the process. Julie Anderson stated that Andrea Bumpurs will be the main liaison for Racine County for this project, and that the County expects to develop a unified plan for all communities to participate in the 2010 Census. Ken Hall asked whether participation in the 2000 Census was a significant problem for Racine County, or for particular areas of Racine County, and whether the Census Bureau had specific strategies to increase participation in these areas. Frank Lamm responded that the Bureau provides information and has identified means to boost participation. On behalf of the committee, Julie Anderson thanked Frank Lamm for his time and the information.

**3. Approval of February 19, 2009 meeting minutes**

Jim Moyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion was seconded by Ken Hall. Upon a voice vote, the minutes were unanimously approved.

**4. Review of additional text to be included in the preliminary drafts of Chapter IX, "Land Use Element," and Chapter X, "Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Element" of SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 301, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035**

Dave Schilling of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) reviewed the following two policies and programs for the land use element (where they will be added to the program section) and agricultural, natural, and cultural resources element (where they will be added to the policy section) of the countywide plan:

- Study the potential to establish a development funded open space preservation program.
- Explore other approaches to preserve agricultural and open space land that would reduce the financial burden of preserving such lands on landowners.

The additions were suggested by Mike Weinkauff and supported by other committee members at the February 19, 2009 MJAC meeting. Dave Schilling also reviewed an addition requested by the City of Racine to its community-specific land use objectives and policies: "Explore and implement additional plans and policies that serve to enhance or advance other areas and neighborhoods, and the City as a whole." Mike Weinkauff made a motion to accept the additions. Ken Hall seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**5. Review of additional text to be included in the preliminary drafts of Chapter XIII, "Utilities and Community Facilities," of SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 301, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035**

Dave Schilling reviewed the additional text to be included in the utilities and community facilities element, including footnotes about the current location of the Wind Lake Fire Company Fire Station #2, and the fire service areas and fire emergency response standards; text to promote alternative safe bicycle routes and public-private partnerships; and additional information about the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Plans in the Villages of Union Grove and Waterford.

Connie Mellem noted that, at the January 29, 2009 MJAC meeting, the Village of Wind Point had commented on the unsafe nature of a bicycle route mapped in their jurisdiction on Map XIII-7, "Recommended Bicycle System Plan for Racine County Planning Area: 2035." She questioned whether this route should also be mentioned, along with the bike route along Seven Mile Road in the Village of Caledonia, as one that poses safety concerns. Dave Schilling commented that Seven Mile Road's bicycle route was highlighted as one example of a route that experiences high incidences of vehicle/bicycle crashes, and that the element would not include a comprehensive list of all routes that present safety concerns.

Matt Sadowski asked whether Map XIII-5, "Fire Department Time-Based Response Analysis in the Racine County Planning Area: 2008" would be revised to indicate that all areas of the City of Racine and other urbanized areas in eastern Racine County are within either the four-minute or 16-minute fire department response times. Dave Schilling replied that Map XIII-5 will be changed for the final draft of the comprehensive plan.

Ken Hall made a motion to accept the additions to Chapter XIII, “Utilities and Community Facilities.” Pete Christensen seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**6. Review of the preliminary draft of Chapter XVI, “Intergovernmental Cooperation Element,” of SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 301, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035**

Dave Schilling reviewed the preliminary draft of the intergovernmental cooperation element, which contains information on Wisconsin State requirements for the element, and existing examples of cooperative agreements and efforts between Racine County and other counties, the Southeastern Wisconsin Region, the state, and among the County and its local communities, including boundary agreements. Paul Ryan reported that the Village of Caledonia and the Town of Raymond had conducted the public hearing on their cooperative boundary agreement, and it should be adopted by both communities in the near future.

Committee members then provided several corrections and additions to the examples of cooperative agreements that exist within Racine County between the County and local units of government, and between local governments, including:

- Pg. 13: Connie Mellem stated that the Villages of North Bay and Elmwood Park do not participate in the municipal revenue sharing agreement between the City of Racine and the Villages of Mt. Pleasant and Caledonia. Jim Moyer stated that the Town of Yorkville also did not ratify the agreement. Paul Ryan and Mark Janiuk also stated that neither the Town of Raymond nor the Village of Sturtevant participates in the agreement.
- Pg. 6: Mary Kacmarcik stated that the language regarding the Sheriff’s Department services may be misleading, and should be revised to indicate that the department provides 24-hour emergency services for the entire county, and provides additional services under contract for selected communities.
- Pg. 14: Ron Meyer and Ingrid Tiegel requested that the name, South Shore Fire Department, be included in the bullet-point regarding the consolidation of the Mt. Pleasant and Sturtevant fire departments, as well as the cooperative building and staffing of the department.
- Pg. 8: Paul Ryan commented that some communities, including the Town of Raymond and the City of Burlington, have passed resolutions opposing the development of a regional transit authority (RTA), and asked whether that should be indicated in the plan. Dave Schilling noted that the information presented in this chapter reflected the Southeastern Wisconsin RTA as it existed in 2008, but he will add text to clarify that Racine County’s participation may change if a permanent RTA is established.
- Pg 8: Ron Meyer asked whether the City of Racine’s BUS service could be included, noting that it serves several communities in the County. Mr. Schilling indicated that a new bullet point will be added to the “other services” section of the chapter.
- Pg. 13: Mary Kacmarcik stated that portions of the Town of Waterford are served by the Wind Lake Fire & rescue Company, and the Tichigan Fire Company.
- Pg. 13: Audrey Viau stated that the Village of Elmwood Park also contracts with the City of Racine for fire service.
- Viki View-Peterson commented that the Town of Burlington has been troubled by some of the language used in the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan; specifically, there are concerns that the comprehensive plan will take precedence over the town’s land use planning. She noted that the requirement of 50% open space in conservation subdivisions was of particular concern; Dave Schilling stated that he will review the ordinances and this issue will be considered in the implementation element.
- Ron Meyer asked that information be added about the public health department which provides services to the Villages of Mt. Pleasant, Caledonia, North Bay, and Sturtevant.
- Pg. 15: Paul Ryan requested that the effort between school districts in western Racine County to provide education for students special needs be removed.
- Pg. 14: It was suggested that the Mt. Pleasant/Sturtevant joint dispatch service be included.

Dave Schilling reviewed the section on conflicts and dispute resolutions, stating that Map XVI-1 shows areas of conflict between local plans—in the Racine County planning area, these exist between the City and Town of

Burlington, and between the Village and Town of Waterford. Mr. Schilling stated that the plan recommends cooperative boundary agreements as a tool to resolve land use conflicts, but he commented that in Wisconsin, towns are at a disadvantage in land use issues. Jim Moyer, Mike Weinkauff, and Viki View-Peterson commented on annexation and land use conflict issues, and how it is sometimes difficult for towns to negotiate with cities or villages on boundary agreements because towns have less power. Dave Schilling commented that one benefit of developing boundary agreements is that agreements may help cities, villages and towns to avoid litigation, which would save them money.

Dave Schilling concluded the review with the goals, objectives, policies and programs proposed in the draft element. He noted that the updated Working Lands Initiative will likely require more intergovernmental cooperative efforts as the County updates its Farmland Preservation Plan. Mike Weinkauff commented that there may be issues in getting enough farms and acreage in the County for an Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA), which requires participation from at least five farmers in a contiguous land area, with preference given to AEAs with 1,000 acres or more. Dave Schilling noted that, as originally drafted, the establishment of an AEA could have protected towns from losing farmland to annexation, but that recommendation was removed. He also noted that the State will provide some funding for the Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) program, which is likely to be a small program (\$1-2 million), but may encourage matching funds from land conservancies or land trusts.

Julie Anderson asked that the policy regarding the police protection and dispatch services provided by the Sheriff's Department be revised to state that the Department should continue to provide dispatch services to communities in Racine County.

Jim Moyer made a motion to approve the draft of Chapter XVI, "Intergovernmental Cooperation Element," subject to changes. Mike Weinkauff seconded the motion. Before the motion went to a vote, the committee questioned whether it should review the revisions, given the high number of revisions made at the meeting. Mr. Moyer withdrew his motion; Mr. Weinkauff withdrew his second; and approval of the draft was deferred to a future meeting.

**7. Continued review of the preliminary draft of Chapter VII, "Population, Household, and Employment Projections" of SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 301, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035**

Dave Schilling stated that the main change to Chapter VII was the inclusion of Tables VII-8 and VII-10, which indicate each community's selected projections for population, household, and employment levels in the year 2035. He commented that the projections as selected by local governments were somewhat higher than those developed by SEWRPC for the 2035 regional land use plan—for example, the increase in jobs based on local employment projections were 70 percent higher than the increase in jobs under the regional intermediate projection—but he stated that this was not unexpected. Mark Janiuk made a motion to approve Chapter VII, "Population, Household, and Employment Projections." The motion was seconded by Mary Kacmarcik. Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**8. Other Business**

Connie Mellem reported that one public informational meeting about the comprehensive plan had been scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2009 in the Michigan Room of Gateway Technical College in the City of Racine, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Kristen Lie stated that two additional public informational meetings have been scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at the Waterford Community Library from, 5 - 7 p.m., and for Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at Mt. Pleasant Village Hall Auditorium, 5 - 7 p.m. Meeting information will be available on the website and in the upcoming Racine County Tomorrow newsletter.

**9. Determination of next meeting date**

Due to Easter week and the public informational meetings, Julie Anderson asked whether the committee would be willing to meet on Thursday, May 7, 2009. Dave Schilling noted that this would give the committee the opportunity to debrief the public informational meetings, as well as to review the remaining plan chapters

(implementation element and summary) and revisions to the intergovernmental cooperation element. He further commented that, if the committee approves the chapters, the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan would effectively be complete, and the next step in the planning process would be to conduct public hearings/open houses in each of the 17 communities. State law requires a Class I notice of these meetings, which means that notification must be given 30 days in advance of the meeting. The comprehensive planning team will be contacting each committee member in the near future to begin the process of scheduling these meetings. It was decided that the next MJAC meeting would be held on May 7, 2009, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in the Ives Grove Auditorium.

#### **10. Adjournment**

On a motion made by Pete Christensen and seconded by Connie Mellem, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Kristen Lie.  
This meeting was tape recorded.