



# BAY-LAKE Regional Planning Commission

## *NEWSLETTER* 4th Quarter 2000

The Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission was established by Governor Lucey in April 1972 by Executive Order 35 to provide planning services on area-wide issues, to represent local interests on state and federal planning program activities, and to provide local planning assistance to communities in the northeastern Wisconsin region.

### 2000 CENSUS DATA AVAILABLE

The 2000 Census data is now available from the U.S. Bureau of the Census regarding population and population by race. Information is available at the state, county, and municipality level. The Bay-Lake Region's population increased 11.2 percent since 1990. Oconto County had the greatest percentage increase in population with 17.9 percent, however, Brown County had the greatest numeric increase at 32,184 persons.

If you would like further information regarding the 2000 Census, please contact Brenda Rehberg of the Commission at (920) 448-2820 or visit the U.S. Census Bureau homepage at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

Table 1: Population, 1990-2000, Bay-Lake Region & State of Wisconsin

County	1990 Census	2000 Census	% 1990-2000
Brown	194,594	226,778	16.5
Door	25,690	27,961	8.8
Florence	4,590	5,088	10.8
Kewaunee	18,878	20,187	6.9
Manitowoc	80,421	82,887	3.1
Marinette	40,548	43,384	7.0
Oconto	30,226	35,634	17.9
Sheboygan	103,877	112,646	8.4
Bay-Lake Region	498,824	554,565	11.2
State of Wisconsin	4,891,769	5,363,675	9.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 and 2000; BLRPC, 2001.

### COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING GRANTS AWARDED

Recently, the State's first Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant awardees were announced. Of the many planning grant applications that Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission prepared for communities, sixteen were successful, involving grant awards totaling \$169,650. Successful communities include: the cities of Algoma, Marinette, Gillett and Kiel; the villages of Sister Bay and Valders; and the towns of Brussels, Gillett, Grover, How, Maple Valley, Liberty Grove, Underhill, Oconto, Cooperstown, and Franklin.

Other communities within the region that prepared successful comprehensive planning grant applications include the towns of Eaton, Manitowoc Rapids and Nasewaupée and the village of Howard.

### COMPREHENSIVE PLANS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION

In November 2000, the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission adopted five local comprehensive plans as part of the master plan for the region. Two of the comprehensive plans adopted include plans for the town of Ahnapee and village of Luxemburg which are located in Kewaunee County. The other three included plans for the town of Doty, town of Little Suamico and the city of Oconto Falls, which are located in Oconto County.

For more information regarding comprehensive planning or the development of the regional master plan, please contact Martin Holden at (920) 448-2820.

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## PAVEMENT RATING - TRAINING WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED

Wisconsin's 1999-2000 Budget Bill contained a requirement that all towns, villages and cities must include a *numeric rating of road surface or pavement conditions* along with their biennial DOT Local Road Inventory. The new legislation requires all local units of government to survey their roads and streets and assign PASER based numeric ratings for each road or street segment effective for the 2001 local road certification cycle that has a December 15, 2001 deadline. In order to maintain as much reporting consistency as possible throughout the state, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is requiring that all communities report their pavement conditions utilizing the PASER pavement rating system developed by the University of Wisconsin's Transportation Information Center (TIC).

Because many communities in our region were not familiar with the PASER pavement rating system, the Commission staff provided PASER survey training workshops throughout the region during February and March 2001. The training workshops were conducted early in the year in order that the pavement rating survey could be coordinated with annual Spring road surveys conducted by local units of government.

The workshops consisted of half day training sessions, and were conducted at no cost to the community.

There was one training session scheduled within each of the eight counties in the Region.

Through a series of slide presentations covering rating systems for asphalt, gravel, concrete and sealcoated road surfaces, the workshops provided a simple, efficient and consistent method of identifying road surface flaws. The training sessions also included information on how to record and submit the pavement data to WisDOT.

The University Transportation Information Center (TIC) also offers a PASER training workshop (usually held in late spring in Madison) at which participants can obtain hands-on experience in developing comprehensive pavement management plans for their communities. A pavement management plan (PMP) will address the future physical and budget needs of the community's roads or streets. A pavement management plan is in essence a capital improvement plan that is designed specifically to prioritize local road maintenance and road repair projects and provides long range budgetary planning for the future road projects. For more information on rating pavement surfaces or developing a pavement management plan, please contact Jim Van Laanen of the Commission staff.



## ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS DEFINITION ADOPTED

On November 10, 2000, the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission adopted a standard regional definition of environmental corridors as part of the master plan for the region under Wis. Stats. 66.945(10). It is hoped that local units of government will use this advisory definition in their local plans to facilitate consistency and coordination of planning efforts, including comprehensive plans prepared under Wisconsin's recent comprehensive planning "Smart Growth" legislation.

The Commission will use this definition in the review of plans and projects for consistency with the plans and programs of the Commission including:

- Executive Order 12372 reviews;
- Environmental reviews required by National Environmental Protection Act;
- Review of local plans developed under Wisconsin's "Smart Growth" legislation; and
- Adoption of local plans as a part of the regional master plan.

The definition consists of an Environmental Corridor Layer and a Secondary Data Layer. The Environmental

Corridor Layer consists of core features or data layers that form the minimum requirements for environmental corridors: surface water features, wetlands, floodplains, and steep slope. The Secondary Data Layer consists of features or data layers for which data are not uniformly available but should be considered for inclusion in an environmental corridor on a case-by-case basis.

The delineation of environmental corridors provides a means of identifying sensitive natural resources and features that may be impacted by future development. This identification process is one in which professional planners, decision-makers and local citizens identify areas of the landscape that are the most suitable for development as well as identifying those areas that are unsuitable for development because of the presence of environmental features.

The Commission will be making use of this definition in all of its planning work, and will continue to map environmental corridors on a county-wide basis throughout the Bay-Lake Region. If you would like more information on environmental corridors, please contact Mark Walter of the Commission at (920) 448-2820.

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## COMMISSION ADOPTS VILLAGE OF LUXEMBURG SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN

In the mid 1990s, the village of Luxemburg, a community of 1,573 persons located in Kewaunee County, was faced with the option of upgrading its existing wastewater treatment plant or finding other means to dispose of its wastewater. After intensive study and cost analysis, the village determined that the most cost effective and efficient method for treating the village's wastewater was by connecting the existing system to the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewage District (GBMSD) plant at Green Bay, twenty miles to the west.

To facilitate its connection to the GBMSD, a new lift station and forcemain were constructed in 1999 to pump the village's pre-treated wastewater to Green Bay. The new pump station and 10 miles of forcemain went on line in October 1999. The new system will meet Luxemburg's wastewater needs in excess of the 20 year design period.

As a condition of connecting to the GBMSD, the village was required to 1) complete an update of its 1988 Comprehensive Plan; 2) develop a Storm Water Management Plan and Ordinance; and 3) complete and adopt the Sewer Service Area Plan.

The village's comprehensive plan update was developed by the Commission and was adopted by the village in January of 2000. A stormwater management plan and ordinance were developed and adopted by the village in December of 2000.

The final of the three GBMSD requirements, the development and adoption of a sewer service area plan

for the village was accomplished late in 2000. The *Village of Luxemburg Sewer Service Area Plan* was adopted by the village on November 8, 2000, and by the Commission on December 8, 2000. The plan was then submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for review and approval. Pending a minor amendment involving the delineation of an environmentally sensitive area buffer, the plan was approved by the WDNR in a letter dated January 17, 2001.

*The village's sewer service area identifies the land area intended for sewer services that will be made available during the 20-year planning period.*

The village's sewer service area plan identifies the land area intended for sewer services that will be made available during the 20-year planning period. Because sanitary sewers represent perhaps the greatest catalyst to development within an area, delineating a service

boundary is critical in designing sewage collection and treatment facilities that will serve existing and future residents of the village of Luxemburg in the most cost-effective and environmentally sound manner possible. The village's sewer service area excludes major areas found to be environmentally or physically unsuitable for sewered development.

This plan also provides a framework for modifying the sewer service boundary, which provides an equitable and logical means for responding to changing physical, social and economic conditions.

The Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission will continue to assist the village by serving as the reviewing agency to ensure plan conformance and to act as a liaison between the GBMSD and the WDNR.

## GREEN BAY WEST SHORE STUDY

Under a grant from the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, the Commission has completed a draft report for the Green Bay West Shore Corridor. Development is pressuring the unique natural resource base of west shore of Green Bay, particularly the coastal wetlands, waterways, wildlife habitat, archaeological and historic resources and woodlands. The western coastline of the bay of Green Bay is unique in many respects due in part to the abundant natural resources that are located along the shores which are vital to preserving the water quality and natural landscape of the area.

The project provides an inventory and assessment of the physical setting of an area covering the bayshore of the city of Green Bay, the village of Howard and the town of Suamico in Brown County, assesses the impacts that current and projected development will have on these vital

natural features, and makes recommendations for the protection of these resources. Key features such as wetlands; wildlife habitat; historic and archeological sites; development trends; existing and proposed land use; land use plans and land use controls; transportation facilities; and sewer and water facilities were inventoried and compiled into the Commission's GIS. Within the planning area are the Sensiba Nature Preserve and some of the state's largest wetlands, Barkhausen Waterfowl Preserve/Fort Howard Paper Foundation Wildlife Area, the Longtail Point and Littletail Point peninsulas, the Reforestation Camp, the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, the mouth of the Fox River, and approximately twenty miles of shoreline. The report provides a summary of problems and recommended solutions, including delineation of environmental corridors, to mitigate impacts of development on key resources. Anyone interested in

further information may contact Mark Walter at (920) 448-2820.

## SHEBOYGAN NORTH SIDE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION STUDY UPDATE

Progress was made in the completion of the Sheboygan North Side Traffic Circulation Study in the fourth quarter of 2000. Key tasks which were in progress during this period included data collection, alternatives development, and alternatives screening.

Commission staff and staff of Wilbur Smith Associates met with staff of the WisDOT Travel Forecasts and Analysis Section on October 19, 2000, to review performance of the travel demand forecast model under 1999 calibrated and 2025 forecast conditions. Alternatives to be examined in the study process were also suggested at this staff-level meeting.

The North Side Traffic Circulation Study Review Committee met on November 16, 2000. Agenda items addressed at this meeting included continued review of Technical Memorandum 2 for the NSTCS (Data Collection), review and

interpretation of baseline network plots produced by the travel demand forecast model for 1999 and 2025, discussion of alternatives to be analyzed in the NSTCS process, and distribution and review of an updated project schedule for the NSTCS.

The North Side Traffic Circulation Study Review Committee met again on December 19, 2000. Agenda items addressed at this meeting included final review of alternatives to be analyzed in the NSTCS process, as well as review of results from testing travel demand and other impacts of alternatives proposed for analysis in the NSTCS process.

It is expected that the North Side Traffic Circulation Study will be completed in mid 2001. Contact Jeff Agee-Aguayo at the Commission office for additional information concerning the Sheboygan North Side Traffic Circulation Study.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**April 23;** 10:00 a.m.  
Commission Meeting  
Green Bay, WI

**May 11;** 10:00 a.m.  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Door County, WI

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