

# **BAY-LAKE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

## **2012 Regional Transportation Work Program**





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## **2012 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION WORK PROGRAM**

Prepared by:  
Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission  
441 South Jackson Street  
Green Bay, WI 54301

Phone: (920) 448-2820  
Fax: (920) 448-2823  
Website: [www.baylakerpc.org](http://www.baylakerpc.org)  
E-mail: [brobinson@baylakerpc.org](mailto:brobinson@baylakerpc.org)



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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Creation and Authority**

By Executive Order 35, Governor Lucey created the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission in 1972 under Section 66.945 of the Wisconsin Statutes (now re-titled 66.0309, under Chapter 66 General Municipality Law, Subchapter III Intergovernmental Cooperation of the 99-00 Wis. Stats.) as the official area wide planning agency for northeastern Wisconsin, at the request of seven county boards within the region. In December 1973, Florence County joined the Commission, bringing the total number of member counties to eight. (Map 1)

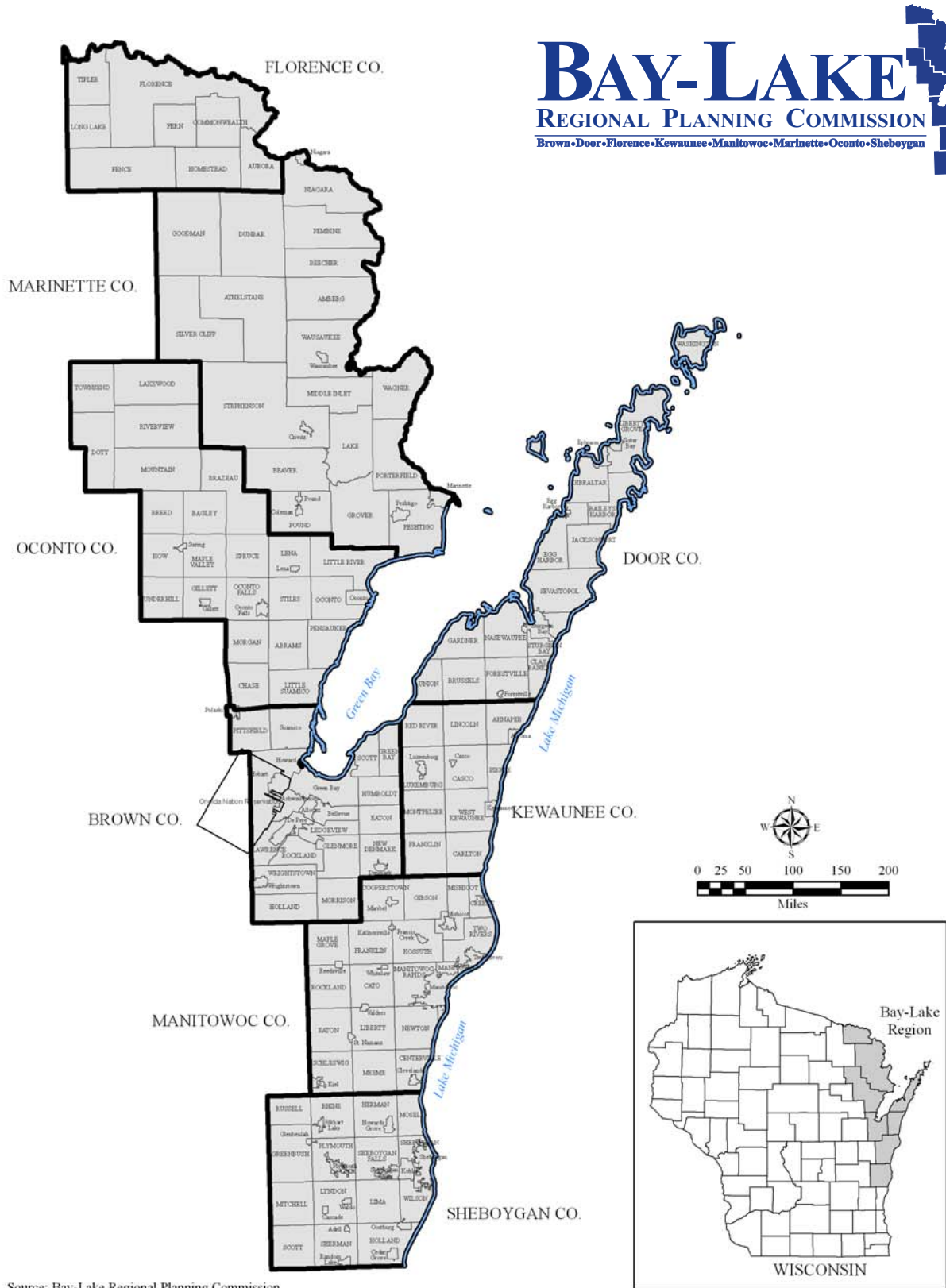
### **Area Served**

The Commission serves a region in Northeastern Wisconsin consisting of the counties of Brown, Door, Florence, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Oconto and Sheboygan. The Bay-Lake Region is comprised of eight counties, 17 cities, 40 villages, 119 towns, and the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, for a total of 185 local units of government. The total area of the region is 5,433 square miles, or 9.7 percent of the area of the State of Wisconsin. The region has over 400 miles of coastal shoreline along Lake Michigan and Green Bay and contains 12 major watershed areas that drain into the waters of Green Bay and Lake Michigan. The 2010 U.S. Census population of the region is 577,147 persons or 10.1 percent of the population of the State of Wisconsin.

## **ORGANIZATION**

The composition of the Governing Board of the Commission is as follows: (1) One member appointed by the county board of each county, part or all of which is initially within the region or later added; (2) Two members from each participating county appointed by the governor, at least one of the appointees selected from a list of persons nominated by the county board; and (3) The CEO of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation or a designee serves as a nonvoting member. As of September 2010, eleven of the Commissioners were locally elected officials, four were publicly appointed officials or employees, and four were private citizens who were actively involved in community affairs. The Commission holds eight meetings per year and annually elects a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and a secretary-treasurer at its September Annual Meeting. The Commission has an Executive Committee, along with two standing committees – Personnel and Nominating.

Map 1: Location Map, Bay-Lake Region



## **REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION WORK PROGRAM**

Since the mid-1970s, the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission (BLRPC), with the support of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), has provided regional transportation planning in northeastern Wisconsin that focuses on state, regional, and local issues.

### **Funding Source**

The annual transportation work program is funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), and with matching funds from the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission.

### **PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

- Prepare and submit monthly invoices and progress reports to the central office of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, along with the preparation of the *2012 Regional Transportation Work Program*.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Draft the Regional Transportation section of the Commission's *2011 Annual Report*.
- Write updates to the Commission's Monthly Activity Reports provided to member counties and municipalities.
- Provide transportation-related articles for the Commission's monthly E-newsletters.
- Participate in and provide assistance to WisDOT staff, as requested, in the planning, coordinating, and hosting of public forums and meetings associated with ongoing state transportation planning efforts, such as the USH 41 upgrades.

## **REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

### **Regional Comprehensive Plan-Transportation Element**

- Maintain an inventory of all major transportation facilities (airports, commercial shipping ports and recreational boating facilities, rail facilities, and bicycle/recreational trails); public transportation; transportation for the elderly and disabled; and intermodal facilities within the region as part of the *Bay-Lake 2030 Regional Comprehensive Plan*. This inventory will be updated as needed to support the Commission's other five program areas and in the completion of economic development proposals, comprehensive plans, and grant applications.

### **Transportation and Economic Development Planning**

- Collect and analyze transportation information and data for inclusion in the Commission's *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2012 Report*.
- Provide assistance as requested by WisDOT staff to coordinate regional transportation and economic development studies, especially for TEA-eligible projects.
- Assist WisDOT and local officials, as requested, to assess, analyze, and mitigate the impacts of highway bypasses on communities in the region.

### *Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning*

- Provide technical assistance to counties and local units of government seeking to implement the bicycle facility planning recommendations within their respective comprehensive plans.
- Update the region's existing bicycle transportation facility inventory.
- Facilitate and/or participate in meetings for the purpose of identifying "interurban trail" connections between the cities of Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Green Bay.
- Assist Sheboygan County, as requested, with implementation of its Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program (NMTTP) to improve bicycling and pedestrian facilities.
- Prepare bicycle and pedestrian trail plans, as requested, for member counties and municipalities.
- Work to secure funding for the preparation of countywide or sub-regional wide bikeway facility and suitability plans and inventories.

### *Railroad Planning*

- Monitor the regional impacts of local rail acquisition proceedings, rail abandonment proceedings, and other related rail activities.
- Participate in meetings that encourage the maintenance and expansion of rail lines and services in the region.
- Provide communities with technical assistance relative to the Rails-to-Trails program.
- Assist, as requested, with planning and public outreach relative to the implementation of the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative.

### *Corridor Planning and Environmental Feasibility Studies*

- Participate, as requested, in statewide and regional major corridor planning and environmental feasibility studies coordinated by WisDOT staff.
- Continue to seek funding for a comprehensive plan for interchange development along the region's major state and federal highway corridors.
- Continue working with WisDOT and consultant staff to prepare a long-range preservation plan for the USH 141 Corridor from STH 64 north through the Village of Crivitz.
- Prepare highway corridor overlay "zoning" plans for those communities located adjacent to major highways.
- Provide technical assistance for regional corridor planning and environmental feasibility studies as coordinated by WisDOT staff.

### *Airport Planning*

- Review and comment on the expansion and development of existing public and private airports.

### Port and Harbor Planning

- Conduct studies for the region's smaller port communities, including the cities of Marinette and Manitowoc, as requested.
- Update the Port, Harbor and Recreational Marina Study for the Bay-Lake Region, as needed.

### **SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

#### Specialized Transportation Planning

- Assist, as requested, public and special transportation service providers with review of Wisconsin Department of Transportation Section 85.21 grant applications for financial assistance that supports elderly and disabled transportation in the Bay-Lake Region.
- Assist WisDOT, as requested, with the review of Section 5310 grant applications. The Section 5310 program is a federal/state grant program providing 80 percent of cost to purchase vehicles for the transportation of elderly and disabled populations.

#### Transit Planning

- Assist, as requested, public transportation service providers with review of Wisconsin Department of Transportation (Section 85.20) and Federal Transit Administration (Section 5311) grant applications for financial assistance to develop and operate public transit services.
- Assist member counties with development of projects funded through Federal Transit Administration Section 5317 (New Freedom) projects.
- Continue to assist the City of Marinette with the administration of the city's Shared-Ride Taxi Program.
- Prepare and submit the City of Marinette's 2013 application for State Aid (Section 85.20) and Federal Aid (Section 5311) for operation of the City's Shared-Ride Taxi transit services.

#### Special Transportation Services Planning

- Assist counties and communities with coordination, planning, and implementation for elderly and disabled special transportation services and programs.
- Assist member counties with the 2012 updates of their public transit/human service transportation coordination plans.
- Provide assistance, upon request, to communities making application for grants for capital improvements, equipment and operating expenses.
- Continue to facilitate meetings of the *Northeastern Wisconsin Regional Access to Transportation Committee* (in cooperation with staff of the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission) for the purpose of coordinating and developing a regional committee to systematically address access to transportation for at-risk populations with special needs.

### **LOCAL ASSISTANCE**

#### Community Transportation Planning

- Assist/prepare the transportation and land use elements for regional, county, and local comprehensive plan updates pursuant to s. 66.1001, Wis. Stats.

- Provide technical advice and guidance in conducting air quality planning for rural, isolated non-attainment counties for regional emissions and conformity analysis, where applicable.
- Assist communities, as requested, with applications for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) planning and infrastructure grants. In addition, provide assistance in the preparation of these plans and/or the administration of program funds, as requested.

#### Pavement Management Surveys

- Assist communities, as requested, with road pavement surveys and data submittal utilizing PASERWARE Pavement Management Software.

#### Grant Writing

- Assist local communities with writing and submittal of applications for Transportation Economic Assistance (TEA); Transportation Enhancement grants; Safe Routes to School; New Freedom; Section 5311; Section 5310; and other transportation related grants.
- Provide review services, data, and letters of support to communities and organizations requesting transportation funding provided through state and federal programs.

### **STATE AND FEDERAL ASSISTANCE AND COORDINATION**

#### Technical and Policy Advisory Committees

- Facilitate and/or participate in advisory committees that address various modes of transportation.

#### Implementation of State Transportation Plans

- Review and comment on state transportation planning activities, as requested.
- Assist WisDOT staff with the implementation of *Connections 2030*, Wisconsin's long-range transportation plan, including the statewide freight network study.
- Disseminate State transportation plan components to local units of government through newsletters, mailings, and other social media.

#### Monitor State and Federal Legislation

- Continue to monitor and review pertinent transportation related regulatory changes and responsibilities derived from the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU, 2005), or any surface transportation legislation that may follow SAFETEA-LU.

Workshops and Meetings

- Participate in meetings and workshops with local officials, staff and other interested parties representing state, regional, county, and community transportation interests.
- Present ongoing work program progress and project reports to the Commission and its committees as appropriate. (See Table 1)
- Attend statewide transportation planners’ meetings and workshops.
- Facilitate coordination of transportation planning activities with other RPCs, WisDOT’s Northeast and North Central Regions, other county planning agencies within the region.

Table 1: Bay-Lake RPC - Tentative Meeting Dates - 2012

Meeting	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<i>Bay-Lake RPC - Full Commission</i>			9 <sup>th</sup>			8 <sup>th</sup>			14 <sup>th</sup>			14 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Bay-Lake RPC - Executive Committee</i>	27 <sup>th</sup>			27 <sup>th</sup>			27 <sup>th</sup>			26 <sup>th</sup>		

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

Table 2 outlines the schedule of program activities and anticipated or tentative completion dates for specific elements of the Regional Transportation Work Program for 2012.

Table 2: Regional Transportation Work Program Schedule – 2012

Activity	Jan	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<b>PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION</b>												
Monthly Invoices and Progress Reports	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b>												
Prepare Transportation Element for Annual Report					X							
Submit Transportation Articles for E-Newsletters	X		X		X		X		X		X	
Attend Wisconsin Regional Transportation Planning Conferences										X		
<b>REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING</b>											X	
Regional Master Plan – Transportation Element Update	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation and Economic Development Planning	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-
Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Planning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Update Regional Bicycle Plan Inventory						X	X	X	X	X	X	
Assist (as requested) <i>Sheboygan County Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program</i> Planning & Implementation	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Railroad Planning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Corridor Planning and Environmental Feasibility Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Airport Planning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Port and Harbor Planning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION PLANNING</b>										X	X	
Development and Review of Section 85.21/5310 Applications									X	X	X	X
Transit Planning		X		X		X		X		X		X
City of Marinette Shared-Ride Taxi 85.20 Application								PI				PC
City of Marinette Shared-Ride Taxi Program Administration	X			X			X			X		
Special Transportation Services Planning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>LOCAL ASSISTANCE</b>												
Community Transportation Planning	-	-		X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pavement Management Planning	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation Grant Writing	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>STATE/FEDERAL ASSISTANCE AND COORDINATION</b>												
Technical and Policy Advisory Committees	X			X			X			X		
Implementation of State Transportation Plans	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monitor State and Federal Legislation	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Workshops and Meetings	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(X) Work Program Elements and Activities Conducted Within an Anticipated Timeframe.

( - ) Ongoing Work Program Elements and Activities and Activities That Do Not Have a Specified Schedule.

(PI) Project Initiation (Tentative to Signed Contract and Scope of Services)

(PRM) Project/ Plan Technical and/or Policy Review Meeting (Tentative to Project Initiation Date)

(PC) Project Completion

**BAY-LAKE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**STAFF CONTACTS**

441 S. Jackson Street

Green Bay, WI 54301

ph: (920) 448-2820 - fx: (920) 448-2823

**Richard L. Heath**

**Executive Director**

[rheath@baylakerpc.org](mailto:rheath@baylakerpc.org)

Administration, Project Development, Community Planning, Economic Development

**Jeffrey C. Agee-Aguayo**

**Transportation Planner III**

[jagee@baylakerpc.org](mailto:jagee@baylakerpc.org)

Sheboygan MPO Transportation Planning, Regional Transportation

**Brandon G. Robinson**

**Community Assistance Planner III**

[brobinson@baylakerpc.org](mailto:brobinson@baylakerpc.org)

Community Planning and Zoning, Regional Transportation, Grant Writing and Administration

**Angela M. Pierce**

**Natural Resources Planner III**

[apierce@baylakerpc.org](mailto:apierce@baylakerpc.org)

Natural Resources, Coastal Planning, Community Planning, Grant Writing and Administration, Sewer Service Area Planning and Plan Amendments, Hazard Mitigation Planning

**Joshua W. Schedler**

**GIS Specialist**

[jschedler@baylakerpc.org](mailto:jschedler@baylakerpc.org)

GIS Data Analysis, Mapping

**Richard J. Malone**

**Office Accounts Coordinator**

[rmalone@baylakerpc.org](mailto:rmalone@baylakerpc.org)

Bookkeeping, Account Management