

Land Use Planning Committee Open House

One Saturday, January 15, 2000, the Town of Little River Planning Committee held an Open House to discuss the town's Comprehensive Planning Program and to begin the planning process.

In addition to the 7-member Planning Committee, 25 town residents participated in helping to define what land use issues were of most concern. Due to the large attendance, two groups were created. Group 1 was led by Rob Burke (UW-Extension Resource Agent) and Group 2 by the town's planning consultant Bill Elman of OMNNI Associates.

After lengthy discussion, Group 1 identified 28 issues, while Group 2 identified 21. The most important issues raised by the two groups were:

Group 1

- Making sure that the STH 41 corridor is as friendly as possible to Little River concerns
- Retaining town authority and say in land use decisions
- Preserving farmland
- Keeping rivers and streams in good order
- Keeping down costs of public services
- Owners retain power over their land and can trust public officials
- Having building size and lot restrictions

Group 2

- Preserve farmland
- Lot size and density
- Protection of stream banks and shoreline from any harmful use
- Control types of housing to protect property values (trailer parks)
- Keep land valued at existing use
- Cost of new sewers due to increased population demand and the impact on the sanitary district

Both groups then voted on the most important issues that should be addressed during the comprehensive planning process. Top vote getters were:

- ✓ Retain town authority in land use decisions
- ✓ Preserve farmland
- ✓ Protect stream banks, shorelines and retain natural resource areas
- ✓ Provide building site and lot line restrictions and density
- ✓ Owners retain power over their land and have trust in local government

Rob Burke is also conducting a Community Land Use Survey. The results of this survey will be available this March. A copy of the results will be placed on this web page.