

# 11.0 Intergovernmental Cooperation

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## Introduction

Intergovernmental cooperation involves working with neighboring communities, county government, and state agencies to understand how their future planning activities will impact the Town of Taycheedah. At a minimum, this involves sharing information about Taycheedah's plan with neighboring communities and agencies and vice versa. Taycheedah believes intergovernmental cooperation should not end with the sharing of plans. Instead, this process should be the beginning for joint planning and decision-making, conflict resolution, and other strategies to promote regional coordination.

Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law includes 14 goals for local comprehensive planning. The goals listed below specifically relate to planning for intergovernmental cooperation:

- ✓ Encouragement of land uses, densities and regulations that promote efficient development patterns and relatively low municipal, state governmental and utility costs.
- ✓ Providing an integrated, efficient and economical transportation system that affords mobility, convenience and safety and that meets the needs of all citizens, including transit-dependent and disabled citizens.

The Comprehensive Planning Law requires that the Town of Taycheedah inform and coordinate planning activities with neighboring local governments, including:

- ✓ Fond du Lac County
- ✓ City of Fond du Lac
- ✓ Town of Calumet
- ✓ Town of Marshfield
- ✓ Town of Empire
- ✓ Town of Forest
- ✓ Town of Fond du Lac
- ✓ School Districts
- ✓ East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
- ✓ Wisconsin Department of Administration
- ✓ Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- ✓ Wisconsin Department of Transportation

### Intergovernmental Vision

**By 2028, intergovernmental cooperation efforts have enabled Taycheedah to establish partnerships with neighboring communities, state agencies, Fond du Lac County, and the local school districts to provide coordinated, cost-effective services to residents. Shared service agreements between Taycheedah and its neighbors have allowed the Town to maintain a reasonable tax rate while providing its residents and land owners with high-quality, cost effective local services and facilities.**

## **Existing Intergovernmental Activities and Partners**

Many current intergovernmental programs have an affect upon the Town of Taycheedah. This section highlights some of these programs.

### **ADJACENT/NEARBY GOVERNMENTAL UNITS**

- ✓ Towns of Calumet, Marshfield, Empire, Forest, and Fond du Lac
- ✓ City of Fond du Lac

Taycheedah's relationship with neighboring Towns can be characterized as one of mutual respect. These communities share a common history, social culture, and rural character with Taycheedah. Since Towns cannot annex land from one another, boundary disputes are non-existent. Public services such as road maintenance and construction are conducted individually by each community. However, as mutually beneficial opportunities for shared services arise, the Town of Taycheedah is open to considering shared services options.

The Town of Taycheedah shares a small portion of its southwestern boundary with the City of Fond du Lac. The City is an important employment center and destination point for residents. Fond du Lac is the community with the greatest potential for future conflict over land use with the Town of Taycheedah, particularly as it relates to possible future annexations. The Town of Taycheedah is committed to providing quality development choices within its boundaries.

### **SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

The Town of Taycheedah and the Fond du Lac and New Holstein School Districts recognize the significant role each plays in the other's future. Each is dependent upon the other, to varying degrees, to ensure a healthy long-term future. The school districts were discussed in detail in the Utilities & Community Facilities chapter. Specific goals and objectives to help realize several of these opportunities are included in the Intergovernmental Cooperation section of the Implementation Chapter.

### **FOND DU LAC COUNTY**

Fond du Lac County provides many programs, services, and facilities to Taycheedah and its residents. Those that most directly affect Taycheedah include:

- ✓ County highway maintenance and improvement programs;
- ✓ Library funding support (to help cover the costs of county residents who use the library);
- ✓ Social services; and,
- ✓ Land use planning and mapping assistance.
- ✓ In those areas where Fond du Lac County has jurisdiction (i.e. shoreland zoning), the County consults the Town before making decisions affecting Taycheedah. During the planning process, additional communication with the County was identified as a priority, particularly with respect to County road improvement projects. Future communication will also be especially important as it relates to:
  - Stormwater management and erosion control
  - Coordination with the Fond du Lac County Comprehensive Plan
  - Police protection, law enforcement, and public safety

There are a number of issues that will challenge the Town of Taycheedah and its neighbors during the coming decades, many of which may benefit from a coordinated, multi-jurisdictional response. The Town will cooperate with the County and other local communities to discuss and address matters of mutual concern and impact.

## STATE AGENCIES

- ✓ Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)
- ✓ Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT)
- ✓ Wisconsin State Historical Society

The activities of the WDNR are discussed further in the Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources Chapter of this plan. Additional information is also available on-line at:  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us).

WDNR and WisDOT are the primary state agencies with whom Taycheedah must coordinate to achieve the goals and objectives of this plan. WDNR takes a lead role in wildlife protection and the sustainable management of woodlands, stormwater regulations, wetlands, state parks, and other natural wildlife habitat areas. Given the priority Town residents give to natural resource protection, the WDNR is an important partner with the Town of Taycheedah in planning for the future.

WisDOT is a key player in the planning and development of highways and pedestrian/cycling facilities in the Town and region. Taycheedah has a good relationship with WisDOT, and will continue to work with them.

## Intergovernmental Comprehensive Planning Process

To facilitate a planning environment open to intergovernmental cooperation, all plan documents, including text and maps, were available throughout the plan program on the project website for review and comment to ensure the widest range of public participation and input from overlapping and neighboring jurisdictions as well as any other interested entity or individual. The Town also coordinated with Fond du Lac County and ECWRPC to obtain mapping resources as well as information from existing plan documents.

More than 30 days prior to the public hearing, all intergovernmental partners were directed to the project website for copies of the recommended plan and asked to provide comments. Comments received prior to and during the public hearing were entered into the record for the planning process.

## Existing and Proposed Plans

### LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

The communities adjoining the Town of Taycheedah are in various stages of the Comprehensive Planning process. Fond du Lac County is in the process of developing the County Comprehensive Plan and has coordinated updates to local existing land use maps with all of its municipalities. The current status of comprehensive planning efforts in adjoining communities follows:

- ✓ Town of Calumet – Plan process not yet begun.
- ✓ Town of Marshfield – Plan underway.
- ✓ Town of Empire – Plan adopted in 2007.

- ✓ Town of Forest – Plan process not yet begun.
- ✓ Town of Fond du Lac – Plan adopted in 2005.
- ✓ City of Fond du Lac – Plan underway.
- ✓ Fond du Lac County – Underway with an anticipated completion date of December 2009.
- ✓ ECWRPC – Completed and awaiting adoption.

### **FOND DU LAC AND NEW HOLSTEIN SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

At this time, the school districts have no plans to construct new facilities within the Town of Taycheedah. In order to facilitate future school district planning efforts, this plan recommends the Town continue to work with the schools districts on future facilities and studies. The districts' current facilities can accommodate additional students. To further facilitate school district planning, this plan has been made available to those districts as a tool to predict future school enrollments from the Town of Taycheedah.

### **EAST CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLAN COMMISSION**

ECWRPC is a unit of government that interacts with the town and county on planning related projects as well as transit, trail and recreational activities coordination. ECWRPC to provide technical assistance as requested on a wide range of issues.

### **STATE AGENCIES**

The WDNR is a major agency involved in the acquisition and development of recreational/pedestrian trails – an important component of this plan. Furthermore, the WDNR takes a lead role in wildlife protection and the protection and sustained management of woodlands, wetlands and other natural wildlife habitat areas. These priorities are reflected in the Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources section of the Implementation Chapter.

The WisDOT has completed a series of Statewide planning documents for use in the development of local comprehensive plans. These documents include plans for the State highway corridors, bicycle corridors, rail corridors, and air transportation. The plans were used as a starting point when preparing the Transportation Chapter of this plan.

## **Town Staff Support**

Historically, Taycheedah has been able to function very well with minimal hired staff. However, as the Town's population continues to grow, staff may be needed to meet the demands of a growing community. The addition of future staff will be carefully considered as part of a larger organization structure designed to meet resident, economic, and intergovernmental challenges.

The provision of adequate space for government to function is also an issue that will impact the Town's ability to coordinate well with neighboring communities and provide needed services for residents. This issue is addressed in the *Utilities and Community Facilities Chapter* as it relates to the future Town Hall and park facilities.

## **Relationship to Other Required Plan Chapters**

Intergovernmental Cooperation weaves its way into every chapter of this plan. Regional housing demand and supplies determine the market for housing in the Town of Taycheedah. Transportation improvements made to County and State highways have the potential to affect land use and development patterns in the Town. Likewise, the Town's ability to expand economically depends on quality services being provided, not only by the Town, but also its intergovernmental partners (i.e. schools, police, fire, etc.). Moreover, the Town's ability to support development opportunities at its perimeter must be coordinated with neighboring communities to ensure compatibility with adjacent land uses.

## **Intergovernmental Goals, Objectives, and Policies**

The Intergovernmental goals, objectives, and policies can be found in Chapter 12: Implementation.