

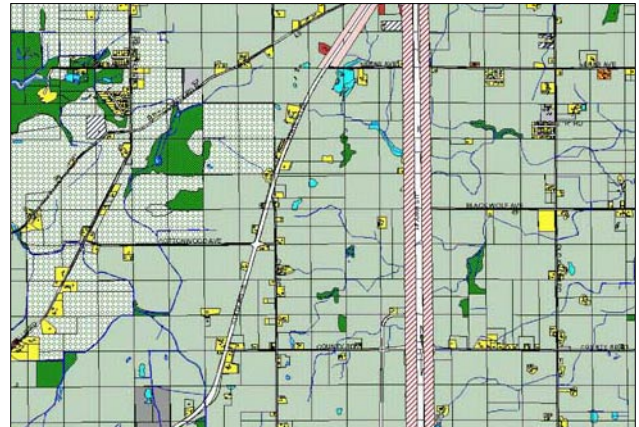


# Public Involvement Opportunities and Information

To develop an effective comprehensive “smart growth” plan, active public participation is needed throughout the planning process. For this reason, OMNNI Associates (the town’s planning consultant) will work closely with the Town of Center Planning Commission to provide you – the residents and property owners of the town - with a variety of means to keep informed as the plan is being developed. Specifically, the following public meetings will highlight the participation opportunities:

**Kick-Off.** This meeting represents the official start of the plan development process. At this meeting, OMNNI will make a presentation about the Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Law and its impact on the Town of Center. During the presentation, OMNNI will explain what a plan is and does for the town. The kick-off meeting will be held on Monday, February 25, 2002, at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall. OMNNI will also present demographic, housing and economic information provided by the 2000 U.S. Census and other sources. Residents at the meeting will be asked to identify any special issues of concern they feel the planning program must address.

- **Mid-Course Meeting.** Near the mid-point of the planning program (date to be announced), the Planning Commission will host a public workshop to provide an update of the planning activities, share the work that has been completed by that point, ask for public feedback, and again invite the public to participate in the planning program. It is anticipated that the town’s vision for 2020, as developed by the Planning Commission, will be presented at this meeting. Moreover, those in attendance will have the opportunity to participate in a mapping exercise, facilitated by OMNNI, which will be used by the Planning Commission in its effort to develop a 2020 future land use map.



- **Intergovernmental Meeting.** The Town of Center Planning Commission will host a special meeting during the planning process, specifically dedicated to the topic of intergovernmental cooperation. At this meeting, representatives of neighboring communities, the school district and other public agencies will be given the opportunity for mutual exchange of ideas and recommendations.

Prior to this meeting, OMNNI will request copies of other community, state and organization plans to identify any conflicts that may, or potentially, exist. During the Intergovernmental Meeting, the draft 20-year Town of Center Land Use Plan Map will be presented for initial comment and feedback. Existing or anticipated

plans of neighboring communities, school districts, and state agencies (i.e. Wisconsin Department of Transportation & Department of Natural Resources) will be discussed in relation to the draft 20-year Town of Center Land Use Plan Map. As part of the presentation, OMNNI will report the results of its findings to identify potential conflicts between existing and proposed area plans. In addition, participants will discuss steps that can be taken in the *Town of Center Comprehensive Plan* to address these issues. All identified conflicts and potential resolutions to these conflicts will be discussed in detail in the *Town of Center Comprehensive Plan*.

- **Map Forum:** At this gathering, all maps developed for the *Town of Center Comprehensive Plan* will be presented by OMNNI. The maps on display will include the DRAFT Future Land Use Map for 2020, as well as, existing land use, zoning and natural features, among others. During this special event, OMNNI will explain how the maps were developed. All in attendance will be encouraged to provide feedback to the Planning Commission and OMNNI.
- **Open House and Public Hearing.** In addition to the required public hearing, the Planning Commission will host an “Open House” to give interested residents the opportunity to review the recommended plan and plan maps. The “Open House” provides an informal setting for residents to get their individual questions about the plan and plan maps answered by members of the Planning Commission and OMNNI Associates. The formal public hearing will immediately follow the open house.

In addition to the special public meetings described above, the Planning Commission will meet on the **4th Monday of every other month at 7:00pm at the Center Town Hall**. (These Smart Growth Meetings are in addition to the regular Planning Commission Meetings scheduled on the first Monday of each month as business arises.) Exact Smart Growth Meeting times are posted on this web page. All Smart Growth Planning Commission meetings are also open to the public. OMNNI will attend these meetings to present additional information and work with the Planning Commission to review draft text, maps, and other materials related to the nine required plan elements.

**For more information about upcoming meetings and other activities, please visit this website regularly!!!!**