

B. Plan Development Process

This *Comprehensive Plan* was prepared under the State of Wisconsin's comprehensive planning legislation, adopted in 1999 and contained in §66.1001, Wisconsin Statutes. This *Plan* meets all of the statutory elements and requirements of the comprehensive planning law. After 2010, only those plans that contain the nine required elements and adopted under the state's prescribed procedures may be legally used to make zoning, subdivision, and official mapping decisions.

In addition to providing sound public policy guidance, a comprehensive plan should incorporate an inclusive public participation process to ensure that its recommendations reflect a broadly supported future vision. This includes mechanisms such as formally adopting written procedures designed to foster public participation at every stage of the comprehensive planning process. The planning process for the Village of Cottage Grove included several public meetings/discussions and a public hearing. This effort reflects the dedicated commitment of the Plan Commission, Village Board, and Village staff to this process and to ongoing input from Cottage Grove citizens, representatives from neighboring jurisdictions and special interest groups. This effort also reflects the fact that the recommendations of this *Plan* are generally consistent with other adopted local and regional plans, long-standing state and regional policies, and sound planning and development practices.

C. General Regional Context

The Village of Cottage Grove is located in eastern Dane County. Situated within the growing Madison metro area, Cottage Grove is bordered by the Town of Cottage Grove to the east, west, and south; and the Town of Sun Prairie to the north. Interstate-94 passes along the northern edge of the Village. Other major regional connections are established through CTH BB running east-west and CTH N running north-south. Map 1 shows adjacent and overlapping jurisdictions in and around the planning area. All of the Village and much of the surrounding Town of Cottage Grove lie within the Monona Grove School District.

D. Selection of the Planning Area

The Village municipal boundary encompasses approximately 3 square miles. The planning area includes all land within that area and all land in which the Village has both a short-term and long-term interest in planning and development activity. In order to adequately take into consideration the regional influences on the Village, the scale of this planning effort went well beyond the 2009 boundaries of the Village. This *Comprehensive Plan* includes recommendations for land within the Village's municipal limits, and also land within its extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) in the neighboring Towns of Cottage Grove and Sun Prairie. As authorized by State Statutes, the Village of Cottage Grove's ETJ extends up to 1 ½ miles from the Village limits, except where it abuts the 3 mile ETJs of the nearby cities of Sun Prairie and Madison, as depicted on Map 1.

PLAN ADOPTION PROCESS

Preparation of a comprehensive plan is authorized under §66.1001, Wisconsin Statutes. Before adoption, a plan must go through a formal public hearing and review process. The Plan Commission adopts by resolution a public hearing draft of the plan and recommends that the Village Board enacts an ordinance adopting the plan as the Village's official comprehensive plan.

Following Plan Commission approval, the Village Board holds a public hearing to discuss the proposed ordinance adopting the plan. Copies of the public hearing draft of the plan are forwarded to a list of local and state governments for review. A Class 1 notice must precede the public hearing at least 30 days before the hearing. The notice must include a summary of the plan and information concerning where the entire document may be inspected or obtained. The Village Board may then adopt the ordinance approving the plan as the Village's official comprehensive plan.

This formal, well-publicized process facilitates broad support of plan goals and recommendations. Consideration by both the Plan Commission and Village Board assures that both bodies understand and endorse the plan's recommendations.