
Chapter Eleven: Implementation

Creating a comprehensive plan is just the first step in directing community growth. Subsequent planning efforts must focus on providing direct connections between the *Plan's* recommendations and actual development. The most effective way of accomplishing this is to adopt development regulations which directly implement planning policies, and then for the Plan Commission to evaluate all development related proposals (annexations, land divisions, rezonings, conditional uses, planned developments, and public investment and service decisions) based on their consistency with this *Plan*. Reference of such development review decisions to *Plan* recommendations will help establish both their legal defensibility and their economic efficiency. The Village's Municipal Zoning and Land Development Codes have already been amended to implement this requirement.

Finally, to be effective, this *Plan* should continue to be evaluated by community representatives and amended as needed to keep current with changes brought about by time. A three-to five-year evaluation cycle is recommended for a rapidly growing community like Cottage Grove.

Many recommendations of this *Plan* will require specific implementation activities. This chapter of the *Plan* summarizes these activities. The activities will be required both within the Village of Cottage Grove and within the extraterritorial jurisdiction as depicted on Map 1, Jurisdictional Boundaries. These implementation steps are addressed directly in this *Plan* for two reasons. First, addressing these topics in the *Plan* will help establish their legal defensibility. Further, it helps to link goals and policies of the *Plan* with specific implementation techniques used by the Village at a later date.

State Statutes (§66.1001) require that, by the year 2010, any program or action of the Village that affects land use will have to be consistent with this *Comprehensive Plan*. These programs or actions include zoning and subdivision ordinances, annexation, official mapping, impact fees and transportation improvements.

A. Plan Adoption

State Statute §66.1001(4) establishes the procedures for adoption of a comprehensive plan. Before adoption, a plan must go through a formal public hearing and review process as required by Wisconsin Statutes. The Plan Commission adopts a public hearing draft of the plan and recommends that the Village Board introduce an ordinance approving the plan as a comprehensive plan or detailed element of the plan. Copies of the public hearing draft of the plan are forwarded to a list of local and state governments for review. Following Plan Commission approval, the Village Board holds a public hearing to discuss the proposed ordinance adopting the plan. The public hearing must be preceded by a Class 1 notice 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 then adopts the ordinance approving the plan as a comprehensive plan or detailed element of the plan.

B. Implementation Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Goal:

1. Implement effective and responsive administrative practices.

Objectives:

1. Implement the *Comprehensive Plan*.
2. Implement administrative flexibility.
3. Implement timely responsiveness and efficient enforcement.
4. Encourage greater public awareness and participation in planning-related activities.