

## **Section 7:**

# **INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION**

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### **Introduction**

Pursuant to the Wisconsin Comprehensive Planning Law, this element of the Comprehensive Plan offers goals, objectives, policies, and programs for joint planning and decisions related to intergovernmental cooperation. This section also identifies known existing or potential conflicts between the Village and this Comprehensive Plan and the adopted plans of adjacent municipalities and towns; Walworth and Kenosha Counties; Genoa City J2 School District (Brookwood Elementary School and Brookwood Middle School), Randall J1 School District, the Lake Geneva – Genoa City Union High School District; the Genoa City Sanitary District; the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Walworth County Highway Department; Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission; and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

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

The following section will re-introduce the goals and objectives identified in Chapter 1 of this document as well as offer prescribed policies and programs to achieve the stated goals and objectives of the Community.

#### **Intergovernmental Cooperation Goals**

The Village of Genoa City's intergovernmental cooperation policies and programs are set to achieve the following goals:

Expand intergovernmental relationships with local municipalities, townships, counties, and other units of government; coordinate with neighboring municipalities to manage land use decisions and encourage cooperation between local units of government to ensure efficient delivery of services.

#### **Intergovernmental Cooperation Objectives**

The following objectives prescribe more specific ways to achieve the aforementioned intergovernmental cooperation goals of the Community:

- Develop policies, cooperative agreements and working relationships promoting intergovernmental cooperation, sharing of information and sharing of services with other governmental units.
- Coordinate transportation needs and improvements with both the County and State Highway Departments to assure the established goals and land use decisions of the Village are adequately met.
- Ensure that intergovernmental opportunities should be cost beneficial to the Village and improve the quality of life in the community.
- Sharing of municipal services should be reviewed and utilized when beneficial to the Village, community or region.

- Participate in groups and organizations promoting intergovernmental cooperation.

### **Intergovernmental Cooperation Policies**

The following policies offer a course of action to guide and determine the present and future decisions related to intergovernmental cooperation within Genoa City:

- Distribute this Comprehensive Plan, and all other relevant documents, to all surrounding municipalities and counties and encourage them to consider all noted recommendations – in particular, those related to future land use, development, and transportation decisions.
- Work with surrounding communities to encourage the development of the “Richmond By-Pass” and the new interchange at Twin Lakes Road and U.S. Highway 12.
- Work with the Village of Twin Lakes, Bloomfield Township, the City of Richmond (IL), Walworth County, Kenosha County, and McHenry County on the implementation of regional transportation and land use plans.
- Continue to have representation at regular meetings between school districts and local municipal governments.
- Participate in joint planning efforts with the Village of Twin Lakes, the Towns of Bloomfield and Randall, Walworth County, and Kenosha County.
- Explore the use of shared facilities and the coordination of services provided by local governments.
- Investigate adoption of comparable land division regulations and design standards between communities.
- Re-examine and adopt boundary agreements or other types of long-range intergovernmental agreements to address municipal jurisdiction.

### **Genoa City’s Intergovernmental Relationships**

The following section describes Genoa City’s existing relationships with the numerous governmental agencies and districts located in and around the Village, as well as identifies any existing or potential conflicts with the adopted plans of such agencies and districts. As development continues to occur, both within the existing Village limits and the designated planning area, the Village will have to rely on these established relationships to assure that adequate services are provided and that development is done in a manner that, to the greatest extent possible, benefits all parties involved.

### **Walworth County and Kenosha County**

A majority of the land within Genoa City’s existing municipal boundary is located within Walworth County, with approximately 26 acres located in Kenosha County.

The anticipated growth and development of the Village should not be so significant that there will be a substantial increase in the demand for County services or impose a large financial impact upon either Walworth or Kenosha Counties. There are no known existing or potential conflicts anticipated between the Comprehensive Plan, and the adopted plans of either county.

### **The Town of Bloomfield and the Town of Randall**

All unincorporated land within the designated planning area and within Walworth County is currently under the jurisdiction of the Town of Bloomfield, while all unincorporated land within the designated planning area and within Kenosha County is currently under the jurisdiction of the Town of Randall.

#### Town of Bloomfield:

The Village currently has a Municipal boundary agreement with the Town of Bloomfield, which will expire in approximately six (6) years – January 14, 2009. Generally stated, this agreement establishes Genoa City's northern boundary at Twin Lakes Road, and its western boundary approximately three quarters ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) of a mile west of Fellows Street, extending north of the State line to Twin Lake Road. Once this boundary agreement expires, the Village will need to review their current growth pattern and service needs to determine if they should renegotiate to maintain the existing agreement or shift the boundaries further north and west.

Additionally, the Town of Bloomfield is in the process of updating their Comprehensive Plan. Upon completion, it should be reviewed to identify any land use or transportation conflicts with those shown in this document. Should any major conflicts arise, Genoa City and the Town of Bloomfield should arrange a meeting to discuss and resolve such issues. The Genoa City Future Land Use map does show residential densities north of Twin Lakes Road and west of the boundary agreement that are a higher than have traditionally been permitted by the Town of Bloomfield. This increased density would only be appropriate if public sewer service is extended to serve these future growth areas.

#### Town of Randall:

The Town of Randall and the Village of Twin Lakes are currently working on a Smart Growth Plan that includes all lands within the designated planning area that lies within Kenosha County. Whereas the plan is in the preliminary stages, it is anticipated that it will show a majority of this land as remaining in the agricultural land use category. This conflicts with the *Village Residential* and *Attached Residential* land use categories indicated on the Future Land Use Plan on this document.

### **Village of Twin Lakes**

The Village of Twin Lake's western municipal boundary is at Richmond Road, which leaves approximately 550 acres of unincorporated land east of Genoa City's municipal boundary and within the identified planning area. As previously stated, Twin Lakes and the Town of Randall are currently working on a Smart Growth Plan that may conflict with this Comprehensive Plan, in particular, all land designated as

either *Village Residential* or *Attached Residential* lying within Kenosha County, south of Twin Lakes Road. Upon completion of the Smart Growth Plan, Genoa City should review the plan and identify any major differences with this Plan. The Village of Twin Lakes and the Village of Genoa City sent a letter dated May 12, 2006 to Southeastern Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) to consider a Joint Sewer Service Area Agreement.

### **Other Surrounding Municipalities**

All other surrounding municipalities are located well outside the range of Genoa City's planning boundary. Therefore, no known conflicts exist. It should be noted that the Village of Richmond's (IL) current Comprehensive Plan identifies the "Richmond By-Pass" as a future transportation improvement. This is consistent with the Transportation Plan contained in this document.

### **Genoa City J2, Randall J1, and Lake Geneva-Genoa City Union High School Districts**

Genoa City J2 School District, which includes both Brookwood Elementary School (grades K through 4) and Brookwood Middle School (grades 5 through 8), currently serves Genoa City's school aged population that resides within Walworth County. Randall J1 School District, which includes Randall Elementary School, would absorb the additional K through 8 students created through development within Kenosha County. Genoa City's high school aged population attends Badger High School (grades 9 through 12), which is part of the Lake Geneva – Genoa City Union High School District. Any development resulting in an increase to the K through 12 aged sector of the population will have an impact on these Districts. Overall, the Village should continue to work with each School District to anticipate the future growth and facility needs of each district.

#### Genoa City J2 School District:

Village population projections indicate a steady growth through the year 2010, with the population forecasts reaching 2,682 persons. Beyond 2010, the population is forecasted to experience a much greater rate of growth, resulting in an ultimate population of 6,222 persons – almost three (3) times the existing population. A majority of the elementary and middle school aged children generated by this population increase are anticipated to attend Brookwood Elementary and Brookwood Middle Schools. Due to limited capacities, there will most likely be a future need to construct an additional school site within the Genoa City J2 School District. As long as growth is appropriately planned for, there are no anticipated conflicts with this District.

#### Randall J1 School District:

A majority of Genoa City's growth is anticipated to occur within Walworth County. Within Kenosha County residential growth is anticipated, however, the additional school aged children generated should not be so substantial that, on its own, will be detrimental to the financial well being of Randall Elementary School or increase enrollment to such a degree that a new elementary school will need to be constructed.

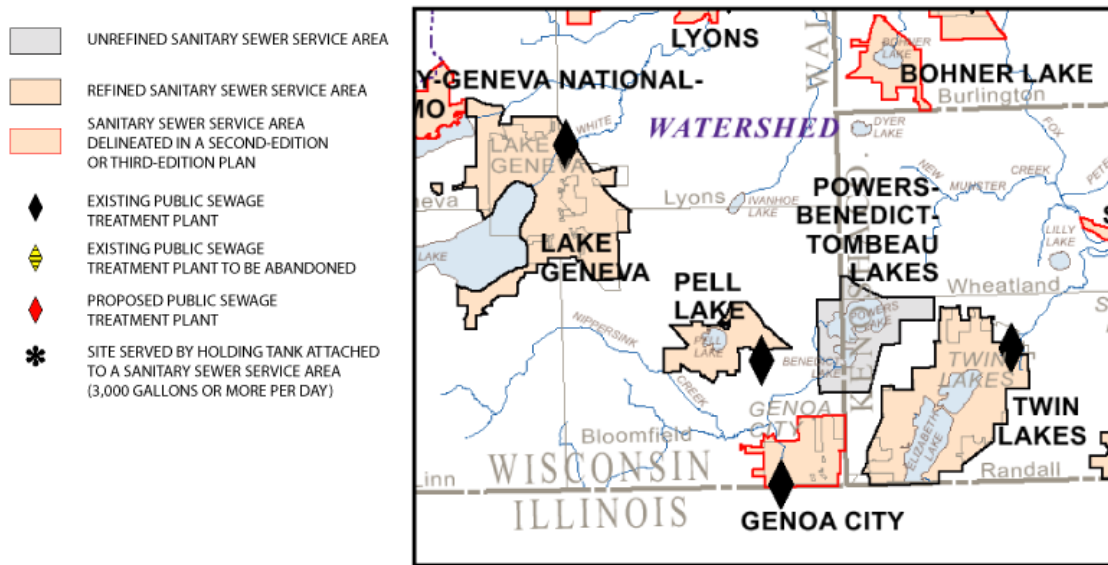
Lake-Geneva – Genoa City Union High School District:

Badger High School (grades 9 through 12) and the Badger Career Campus (grades 9 through 11), which is located within Badger High School, comprise the Lake Geneva - Genoa City Union High School District. Both school sites are located in Lake Geneva, and serve Genoa City's existing high school aged population. The additional high school aged children resulting from the Village's anticipated growth should not be so substantial that, on its own, will be detrimental to the financial well being of the District or increase enrollment to such a degree that a new high school will need to be constructed. No known existing or future conflicts are expected. However, the Village should continue to work with the District to anticipate its future growth and facility needs.

**Genoa City Sanitary District**

The Genoa City Sanitary District, which provides sewer and water services, currently serves a majority of the land located within Genoa City's existing Village limits, except for a small portion of the southeast corner of the Village, in which service is not provided. The following exhibit identifies the existing limits of Genoa City's sanitary sewer service area and identifies all those that are in close proximity to the Village.

**Recommended Sanitary Sewer Service Areas in the Region: September 2003**



Source: SEWRPC

Per discussions with the Village Engineer, Genoa City has enough capacity to service all the land within the municipal boundaries and limited expansion beyond these limits. When growth occurs outside Genoa City's existing sanitary sewer service area, the Village will have to increase capacity in order to accommodate the expanded service area. Increased development will also result in expansion of the existing sewer plant.

### **Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT)**

The transportation plan that accompanies this document identifies two (2) future full access interchanges – one (1) generally at Walworth Street and US Highway 12, referred to as the “Richmond By-Pass,” and one (1) at Twin Lakes Road and US Highway 12. These intersection locations do not conflict with any of WisDOT’s adopted plans or programs. Per conversations with WisDOT, District 2, which coordinates the state sponsored transportation efforts in Genoa City, no major improvements or roadway projects are anticipated in the near future.

### **Walworth County Highway Department**

County Highways B, P, H, and U traverse the Village of Genoa City. As identified in the Transportation Plan of this document, no new County roads or expansions of existing roads are planned. Additionally, per conversations with the Highway Department, no long-term transportation improvements are planned that would impact traffic in and around the Village.

### **Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC)**

In April 2001, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission adopted “A Land Use Plan for Walworth County Wisconsin: 2020.” Among other things, this document identifies environmentally significant areas, natural areas, land use objectives, and recommended land uses for all unincorporated land within Walworth County. As identified on the “Recommended Land Use Plan” map, a majority of the land to the north and west of the Village is either designated as prime agricultural land or lands in the A-3 agricultural land holding district. It is further recommended that the division of all prime farmland identified on the map be limited to a minimum size of thirty-five (35) acres, and that the conversion of this land be limited to those lands which are located within planned urban service areas. The stated purpose of the *A-3 Agricultural Land Holding District* is to preserve in agricultural related open space uses, for a limited time period, those lands generally located adjacent to existing incorporated urban centers within the County where urban expansion is planned to take place. This district classification is intended to defer urban development until the appropriate legislative body determines that it is economically and financially feasible to provide public services and facilities. The “Future Land Use Plan” map that accompanies this document is generally consistent with this Plan, however, the development standards for existing agricultural land outside the current Village limits are less strict. This is recognized as a potentially minor conflict. Aside from that, this document generally supports the recommendations of SEWRPC’s Plan.

### **Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is one of the principal agencies involved in the acquisition and development of recreational paths and pedestrian trails. Additionally, they take a lead role in the protection of wildlife and help to assure the sustained management of woodlands, wetlands and other natural wildlife habitat areas. This plan promotes the preservation and protection of all natural areas, floodplains, wetlands, wildlife, and environmentally sensitive areas. There are no conflicts with this plan and the adopted plans of the WDNR.

## **Intergovernmental Cooperation Recommendations**

The following is a list of recommendations that will help to achieve the stated goals, policies, and objectives for intergovernmental cooperation:

1. Work with Walworth and Kenosha Counties, the Village of Twin Lakes, and Bloomfield Township to identify joint services and facilities where consolidating, coordinating, or sharing services or facilities will result in better services and/or cost savings.
2. Work with the same listed agencies to implement a regional transportation plan that addresses the future road, bicycle, trail, and path networks.
3. Negotiate a boundary agreement with Twin Lakes, and consider establishing Genoa City's eastern boundary at Richmond Road.
4. If annexation occurs to Richmond Road, the Village should consider redistricting the Genoa City J2 School District boundary to include all land west of Richmond Road and south of Twin Lakes Road.
5. Renegotiate the boundary agreement with the Town of Bloomfield, and determine if the expansion of the boundary further north or west is beneficial to the Village and Township.
6. Coordinate planning efforts with the Town of Randall and the Village of Twin Lakes and resolve any major disagreements between this document and their Smart Growth Plan that is being prepared.
7. Establish a relationship with the Southeastern Wisconsin Planning Commission and participate in their regional planning efforts.