



2021 Annual Report

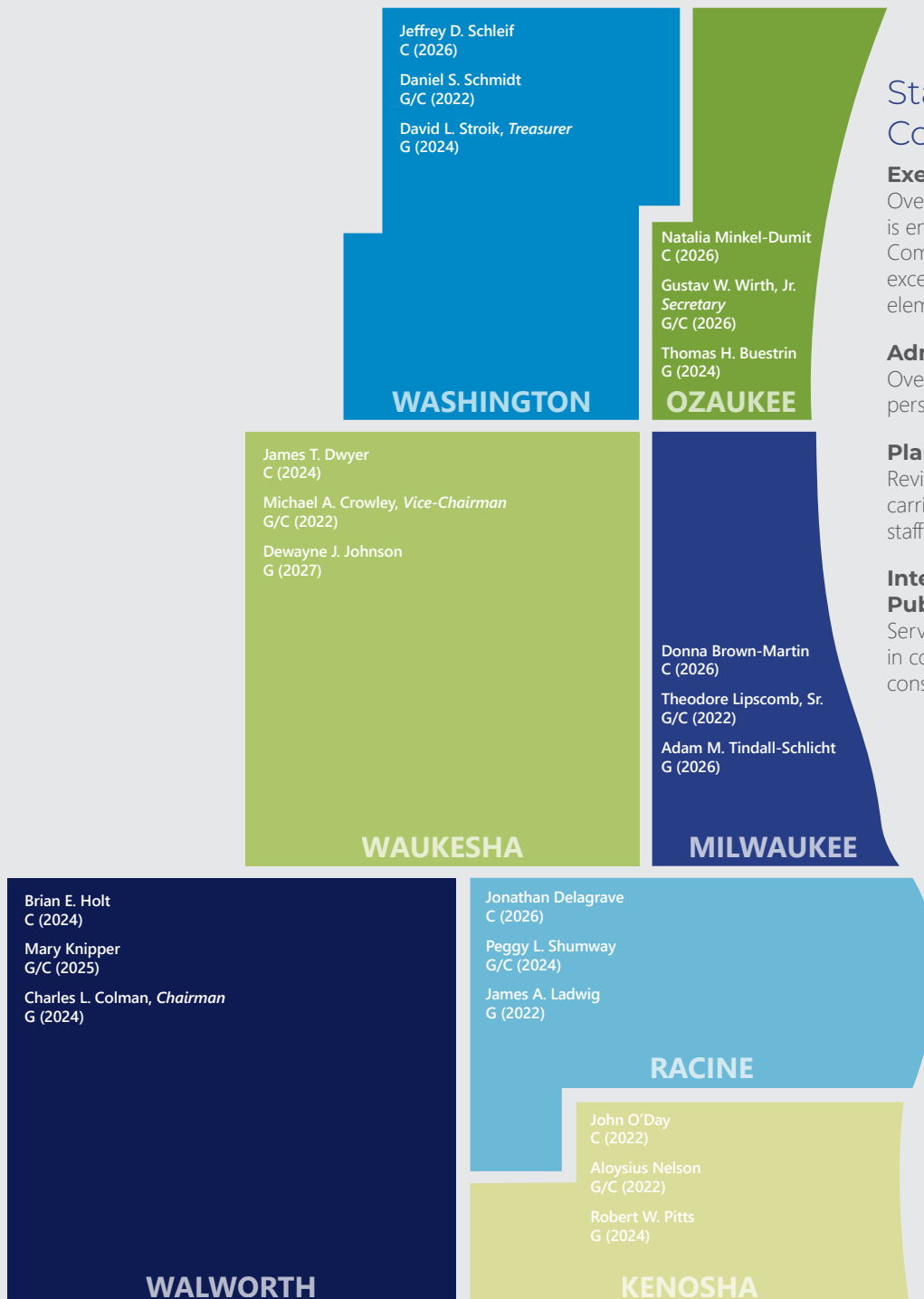


Commissioners and Committees

Under State law, SEWRPC is governed by 21 Commissioners (three from each county):

- C Appointed by county board or appointed by county executive and confirmed by county board
- G/C Appointed by Governor from a county-supplied list of candidates
- G Appointed directly by Governor

Commissioners are appointed to six-year terms. Term end dates are shown in parentheses.



Standing Committees

Executive

Oversees work efforts and is empowered to act for the Commission in all matters except adopting regional plan elements and the budget

Administrative

Oversees financial and personnel matters

Planning and Research

Reviews all technical work carried out by the Commission staff and its consultants

Intergovernmental and Public Relations

Serves as the principal arm in communicating with the constituent county boards

Executive Committee

Charles L. Colman, *Chairman*
Michael A. Crowley, *Vice-Chairman*
Donna Brown-Martin
Jonathan Delagrave
James T. Dwyer
Aloysius Nelson
Robert W. Pitts
Daniel S. Schmidt
David L. Stroik
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.
Thomas H. Buestrin, *Alternate*

Administrative Committee

James T. Dwyer, *Chairman*
Donna Brown-Martin
Thomas H. Buestrin
Charles L. Colman
Michael A. Crowley
Jonathan Delagrave
Aloysius Nelson
Robert W. Pitts
Daniel S. Schmidt
David L. Stroik
Gustav W. Wirth, Jr.

Planning and Research Committee

Daniel S. Schmidt, *Chairman*
Jeffrey D. Schleif, *Vice-Chairman*
Donna Brown-Martin
Charles L. Colman
Michael A. Crowley
Brian E. Holt
Dewayne J. Johnson
Mary Knipper
James A. Ladwig
Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.
Natalia Minkel-Dumit
Aloysius Nelson
John O'Day
Robert W. Pitts
Peggy Shumway
David L. Stroik
Adam M. Tindall-Schlicht

Intergovernmental and Public Relations Committee

Michael A. Crowley, *Chairman*
Jonathan Delagrave
Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.
Brian E. Holt
Natalia Minkel-Dumit
John O'Day
Jeffrey D. Schleif

Message from the Chairman

Dear Southeastern Wisconsin,

It is my pleasure to present to you the 2021 Annual Report for the Regional Planning Commission. 2021 continued to be a unique and challenging year for all of us. Our 2021 Annual Report provides the Wisconsin State Legislature, the seven counties, and the local units of government in our Region the opportunity to review and reflect on our valuable partnerships and the year's accomplishments.

This 61st annual report emphasizes work efforts accomplished during 2021. Highlights from the year include:

- ▶ Continued work on the Regional Chloride Study
- ▶ Continued work on the Regional Food System Plan
- ▶ Partnered with M7 to complete a new Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Region
- ▶ Completed the Oak Creek Watershed Restoration Plan
- ▶ Supported multiple workforce transportation and public transit improvement efforts
- ▶ Initiated work on updating the regional land use inventory
- ▶ Continued work to update the Regional Natural Areas Plan
- ▶ Continued work in supporting the improvement of water quality by providing technical information, guidance, and advice throughout the Region

If you want to learn more about any of the Commission's work or get more involved in our efforts, please contact us. We recognize the environmental, developmental, and infrastructure challenges and opportunities facing Southeastern Wisconsin. We look forward to continuing to serve the Region's county and local governments and State and Federal agencies to improve the quality of life of all residents.

Very truly yours,



Charles L. Colman
Chairman

About SEWRPC

The **Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission** is the official areawide advisory planning agency for land use and infrastructure and the **metropolitan planning organization (MPO)** for the Region. **The Commission was established in 1960** under Section 66.0309 of the *Wisconsin Statutes* in response to petitions submitted by each of the seven Southeastern Wisconsin counties. It is the largest of the nine regional planning commissions in Wisconsin.

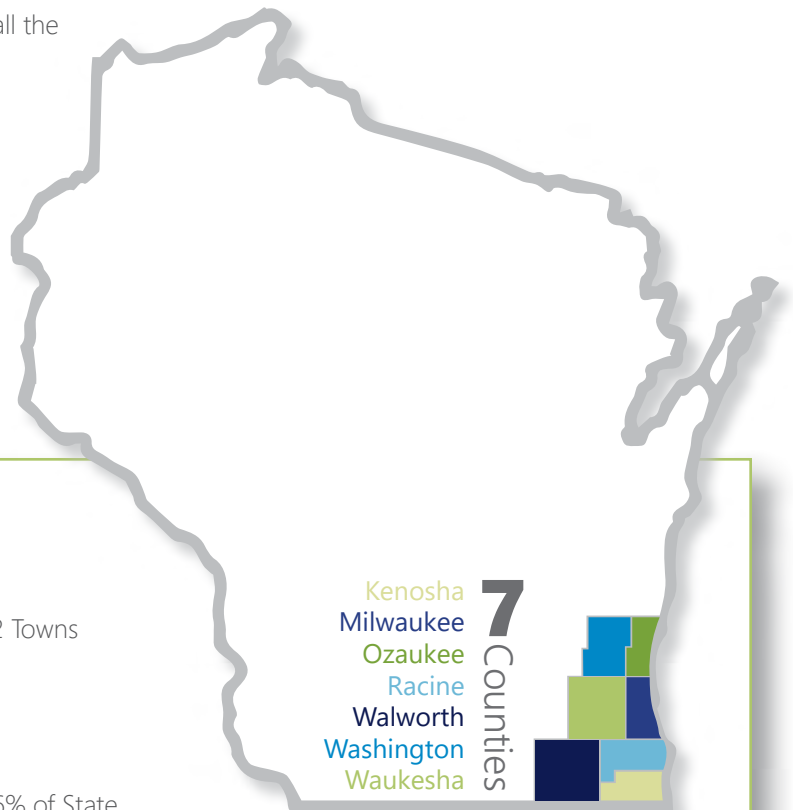
Regional planning is needed in large metro areas across the United States because development and infrastructure problems often transcend the political boundaries and fiscal capabilities of individual communities. A regional approach assists in providing efficient, cost-effective public works systems such as public transit, highways, sewerage and water supply, and parks. Regional planning is also a sound approach to address issues such as flooding, air and water pollution, changing land use, and preserving natural and agricultural resources.

The Commission performs three basic functions to address regional issues:

- ▶ **Providing basic planning and engineering data and analyses** to Federal, State, and local governments
- ▶ **Developing a framework of long-range areawide plans** for the physical development of the Region, which is mandated by State law
- ▶ **Coordinating day-to-day planning activities** of all the governments operating in the Region

The Commission is assisted greatly in its work by advisory committees, which include both elected and appointed public officials and interested residents with knowledge in the Commission work program areas. The committees perform a significant function in both formulating and executing those work programs. A listing of the current advisory committees can be found at:

www.sewrpc.org/advisorycommittees.



Region Overview

- ▶ Local Governments: 29 Cities | 66 Villages | 52 Towns
- ▶ Area: 2,689 Square Miles | 5% of State
- ▶ Population: 2.06 Million | 35% of State
- ▶ Employment: 1.23 Million Jobs | 35% of State
- ▶ Wealth: \$234.0 Billion Equalized Valuation | 36% of State

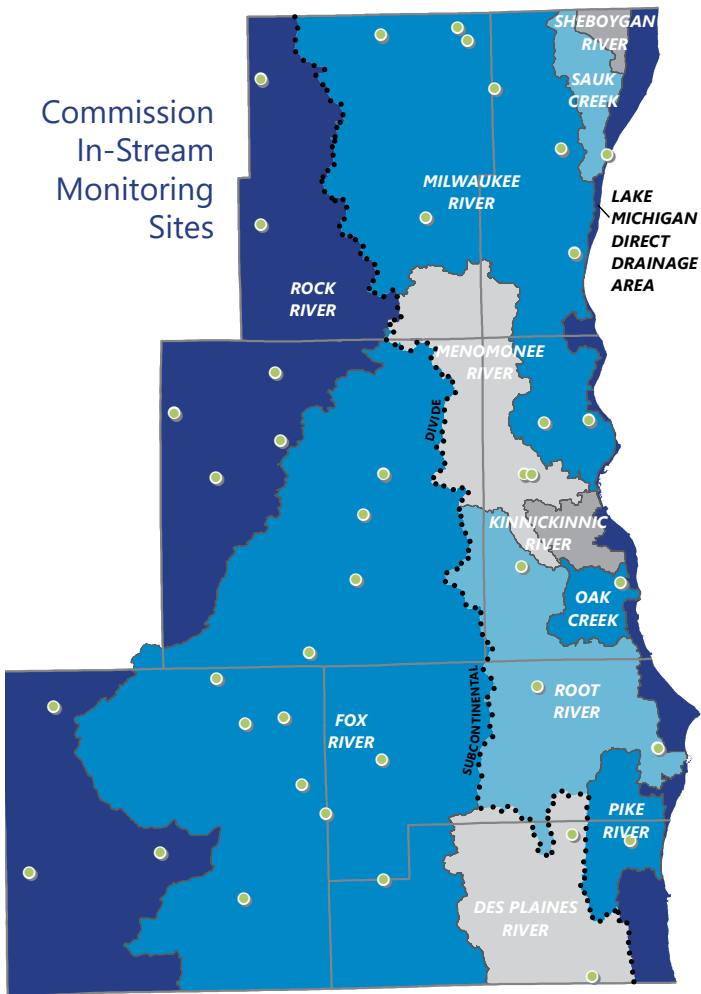
REGIONAL PLANNING

As the areawide planning agency for Southeastern Wisconsin, the Commission is responsible for making and adopting a master plan for the physical development of the Region, including the use of land and supporting transportation and utility facilities. To accomplish this, the Commission prepares individual plan elements that together comprise the Region's comprehensive plan. Each element is intended to address an identified areawide developmental or environmental problem. The individual elements are coordinated through an areawide land use plan, which is currently presented in VISION 2050, the long-range land use and transportation plan.

During 2021, several major regional planning efforts were ongoing, including the Regional Chloride Impact Study, Regional Food System Plan, and Regional Natural Areas Plan. The Commission also adopted a new Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy led by M7. The following pages summarize these and other efforts from the year that support the Commission's regional planning program, such as housing planning, workforce transportation efforts, the Transportation Improvement Program, surveying and mapping, a regional land use inventory update, coastal management planning, natural resource planning, and sanitary sewer service area planning.

Regional Chloride Impact Study

The Regional Chloride Impact Study is the Region's foremost comprehensive study to identify significant sources and magnitudes of chloride (salt) in surface water and groundwater resources. The study is examining several potential ways that people contribute chloride to the environment including road salt, water softener discharge, septic systems, and fertilizers. Commission staff will develop a plan that encompasses aspects from policy to alternative scenarios to help reduce the adverse effects of chloride on the Region's freshwater resources.

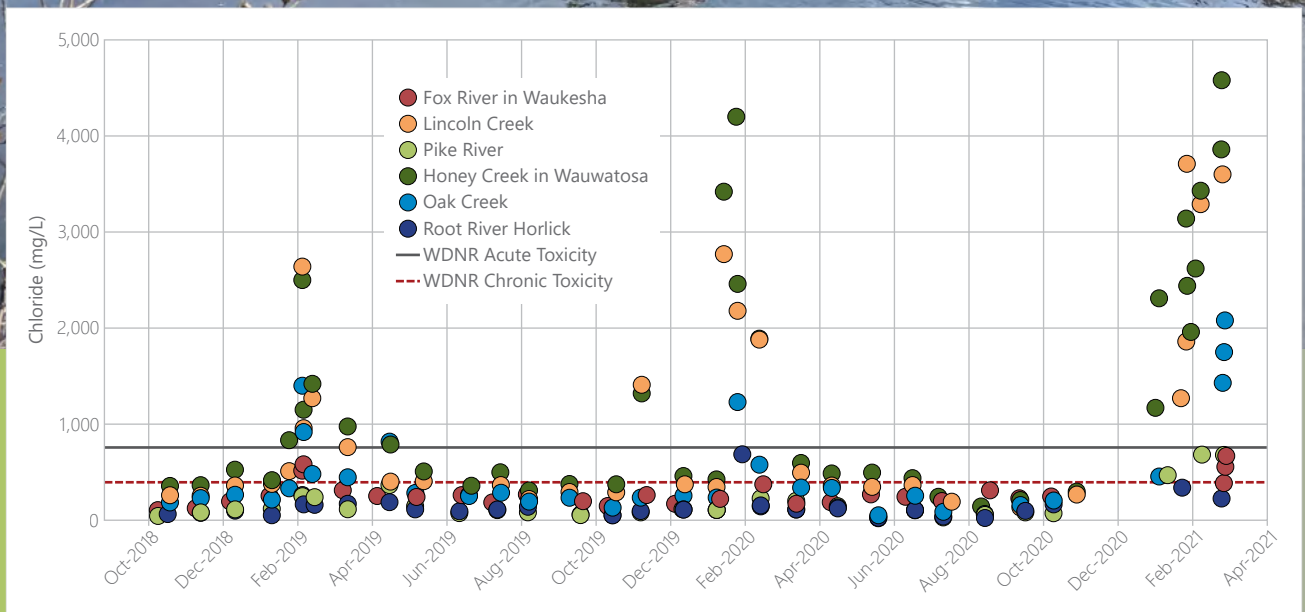


Work began on the study in 2017, with the installation of a pilot site to evaluate in-stream specific conductance sensors and telemetry equipment. The data collected by these sensors, when paired with lab-analyzed water samples, are typically used to estimate chloride concentrations in surface water once a chloride-specific conductance relationship is established. In 2018, the monitoring equipment was purchased and 37 monitoring stations were established throughout the Region. Field data collection from the 37 sensors and the collection of physical water samples was initiated in October 2018. In addition to the monitoring of rivers and streams, six lakes were chosen to sample quarterly at the deepest part of the lake. During the field collection period of the study, the number of stream monitoring sites grew to 42. Regular monthly river sampling and quarterly lake sampling over the two-year data collection period culminated in over 1,000 physical water samples, which were analyzed for chloride and other major ions.

While the two-year regular monthly river sample collection period was completed in October 2020, field water sampling continued into 2021 at several stream monitoring sites. A targeted winter event sampling program was established in 2021 to collect water samples during periods of high specific conductance. Commission staff relied on the near-real-time monitoring data, provided by telemetry-equipped data loggers and accessed through a cloud-based interface, to monitor conditions and equipment performance remotely. Due to hybrid work, staff were able to provide broad geographic coverage and quickly mobilize to obtain grab samples during conductivity spikes.

Commission staff began decommissioning river and stream monitoring sites during the summer of 2021, and the final river samples for the project were collected in August 2021. The collection of streamflow measurements at targeted monitoring sites continued into the fall of 2021. In 2021, Commission staff also continued to collect data from other agencies on public and private deicing, fertilizers, water softening, wastewater sources, groundwater sources, and state-of-the-art technology.

As the Chloride Impact Study moved from the field collection phase into the analysis phase, Commission staff began evaluating the data collected throughout the project. These data will be used to develop a regression relationship between chloride and specific conductance (ability to conduct electricity), and to estimate chloride loading at river and stream monitoring sites. Additionally, chloride source data will be used to estimate the chloride loads generated within the contributing drainage areas of the monitoring sites.



Chloride Concentration Grab Samples from Select Urban Sites

This chart shows preliminary data from the monthly water sampling performed during the first phase of the chloride study. High proportions of impervious surfaces (such as rooftops, asphalt, and concrete) associated with urban development in the areas draining to these monitoring sites result in high chloride concentrations, especially in the winter months, and are most likely due to deicing measures for roads, sidewalks, and parking lots. During the winter months, the sampled in-stream chloride concentrations for the Honey Creek, Lincoln Creek, and Oak Creek monitoring sites, which are all in Milwaukee County, often exceed the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) acute toxicity limit of 757 mg/l (gray). The acute toxicity limit indicates lethal adverse effects to aquatic animals and plants with exposure durations less than one day. Also of significant concern, the chart shows that the more highly developed urban monitoring sites are approaching the WDNR chronic toxicity limit of 395 mg/l for chloride throughout the year (red dashed line). The chronic toxicity limit indicates sublethal adverse effects to aquatic animals and plants with long-term exposure, such as decreased size, reduced reproduction, and shortened life span.

Regional Food System Plan

The Regional Food System Plan will address the food system from a regional planning perspective. The plan is aimed at identifying how to achieve several objectives concerned with ensuring accessible and affordable healthy and fresh food options for all residents, reducing economic and health disparities, supporting locally owned and sustainable farming operations, and preserving productive agricultural land and sensitive natural resources.

The following activities took place during 2021:

- ▶ The Advisory Committee was formed to guide the planning process
- ▶ Chapter 1 of the report (Introduction) was completed
- ▶ Virtual kick-off meetings were held in August to provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the plan and provide input on what should be included in the plan
- ▶ Continued drafting the report and researching the different components on the Region's food system, such as agricultural production, the food and beverage manufacturing industry, distribution, retail, and food waste

Food System

The food system is a complex web of activities, processes, and actors involved in the production, processing, distribution, transportation, consumption, and disposal of food products. A sustainable food system supplies food security and adequate nutrition for all in a way that protects economic, social, and environmental interests for future generations.



Regional
Food System
Plan

Housing

The Regional Housing Plan was adopted by the Commission in 2013 with a vision of providing financially sustainable housing for people of all income levels, age groups, and needs. Plan recommendations address six key areas, many of which are geared toward the cities and villages in the Region that administer land use regulations. Every year, Commission staff works to inform those in the Region concerned with housing about the Regional Housing Plan and its recommendations. Highlights of housing-related activities in 2021 include:

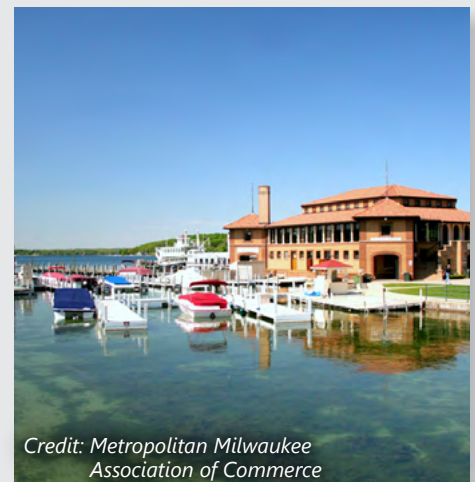
- ▶ Presented to an Urban Planning class at UW-Milwaukee.
- ▶ Continued to assist with housing affordability reports at the request of a number of municipalities in the Region. State legislation enacted in 2018 requires cities and villages with populations of 10,000 people or more to prepare reports that include data regarding development activity in the municipality and an analysis of how the municipality's land use regulations impact the cost of housing. Staff uses Regional Housing Plan recommendations as the basis for the analysis.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

In September 2021, the Commission adopted the 2021-2025 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for Southeastern Wisconsin, which replaces the previous 2015-2020 CEDS. The 2021-2025 CEDS was led by the Milwaukee 7 Regional Economic Development Partnership (M7) and prepared in collaboration with SEWRPC. M7 and SEWRPC obtained substantial input from M7's Regional Economic Partnership (REP) working group and other stakeholders.

The purpose of the CEDS is to bring together members of the public and private sectors to develop a strategy-driven plan for regional economic development. The Region must prepare a new CEDS at least every five years for communities and organizations within the Region to qualify for U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding targeted at economically distressed areas. In addition, action on the CEDS by each of the county boards representing the seven counties in the Region and by the Commission makes it possible for the Region to apply to EDA for designation as an Economic Development District (EDD).

Work on the 2021-2025 CEDS was initiated in 2020 with data collection and analysis for the Summary Background section, which presents the current conditions, historical trends, and future projections affecting the Region's economy. This information was shared in the first round of public/stakeholder involvement in the fall of 2020, with input helping to identify the regional economy's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOTs). A second round of involvement in spring 2021 obtained feedback on the draft CEDS. M7, SEWRPC, and the REP considered all feedback on the draft CEDS and made changes to address that feedback prior to finalizing the CEDS and presenting it to each county board in summer 2021. The CEDS includes an Action Plan focused around five goals: Unity, Growth, Talent, Livability, and Infrastructure. The Action Plan recognizes that equity and economic resilience are critical components of the CEDS and also identifies economic development projects in the Region that illustrate some of the many ways the CEDS is being and will be implemented.





FlexRide Milwaukee Pilot Planning Phase Completed

During 2021, a team of UW-Milwaukee urban planning professors and Commission staff completed the planning phase of a project aimed at identifying solutions for getting workers from Milwaukee to jobs in the Menomonee Falls area. Funded by a Civic Innovation Challenge (CIVIC) Planning Grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the UWM-SEWRPC team received valuable feedback from both employers and potential users of transportation services. The team then successfully applied for a \$1 million grant through NSF to fund implementation of a pilot program that would test on-demand transportation services guided by input from the planning phase. At the end of 2021, the team was working with numerous partners to prepare for an early 2022 launch of FlexRide Milwaukee. www.flexridemke.com



Last-Mile Transportation Study

In addition to working with UW-Milwaukee on the FlexRide Milwaukee pilot to transport Milwaukeeans to jobs in the Menomonee Falls area, Commission staff assisted Mobilise (formerly the Regional Transit Leadership Council) on a study to identify last-mile mobility solutions for accessing jobs at employment centers in eastern Waukesha County and southern Milwaukee County. Like the areas served by FlexRide, these are places with many jobs beyond the reach of fixed-route transit service. At the end of 2021, the study team was exploring the potential for a commute program to increase access to jobs in these communities, identifying best practices from across the country, and developing a strategy for implementing a successful program. www.mobilisewi.org



Workforce Mobility Team

The Workforce Mobility Team was heavily involved in both the FlexRide pilot and the last-mile transportation study during 2021. The Team focused on responding to concerns from employers in the Region who experience challenges retaining and attracting workers because those workers have limited transportation options to the workplace. The Team has met with a number of employers and employer groups during the year, while continuing to research innovative solutions, track local efforts, and provide helpful workforce mobility resources. www.sewrpc.org/mobility



Transportation Demand Management

Commission staff continued to develop a commute program to promote TDM strategies that encourage multimodal transportation options, including ridesharing, biking, and transit. Staff also researched workforce mobility options in support of ongoing transit planning and Workforce Mobility Team efforts. In addition, staff also continued to collaborate on multiple TDM-related initiatives, including working with partners at the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and the Greater Madison MPO to improve the statewide Rideshare Etc. online platform and supporting the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center as they implemented TDM strategies for their campus.



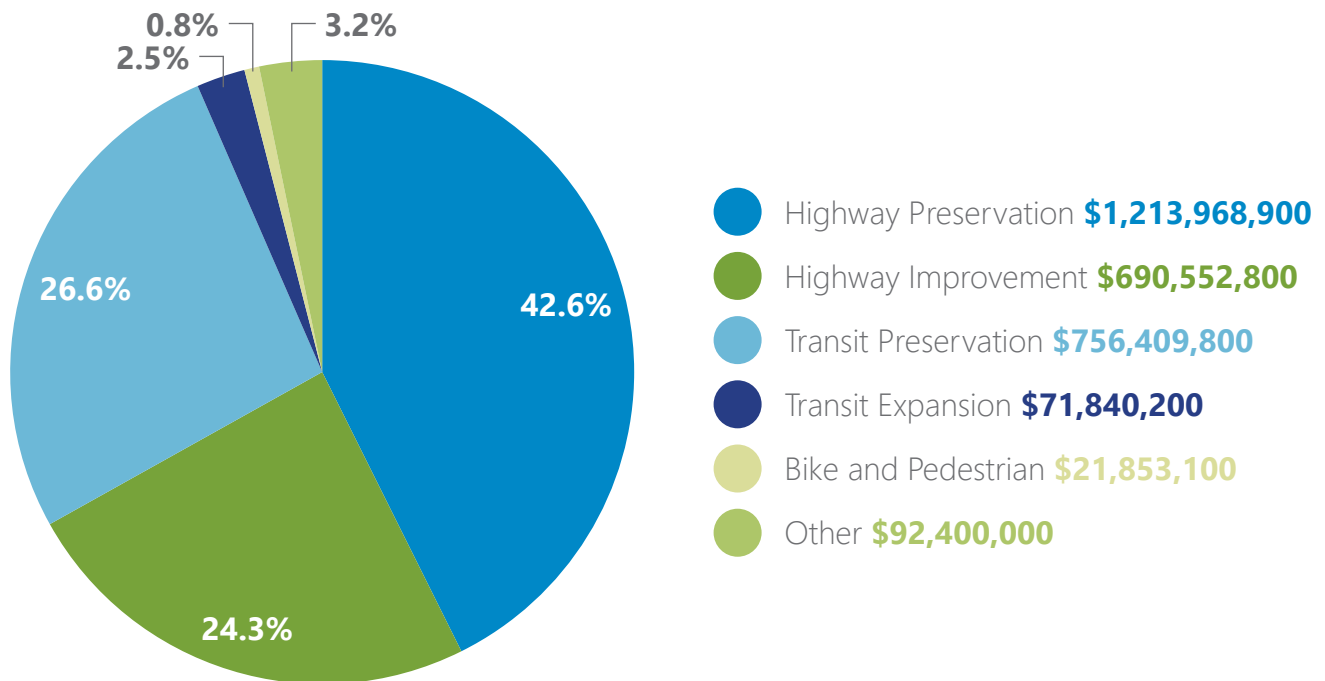
Transportation Improvement Program

The current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Southeastern Wisconsin was adopted by the Commission in December 2020. It is a listing of all arterial highway, public transit, and other transportation improvement projects proposed to be carried out over a four-year period by county and local governments and WisDOT within the Region. Arterial highway and public transit projects proposed to be funded with FHWA (highway) and FTA (transit) funding must be listed in the TIP. The Commission develops the TIP working with WisDOT staff, area transit operators, and county and local units of government within the Region. The Commission's TIP Committees (one for each of the Region's five urbanized areas) guide the TIP. These Committees are made up of local elected officials and staff, including all of the area transit operators. The TIP must be consistent with VISION 2050 and conform to State of Wisconsin air quality implementation and maintenance plans for specified national ambient air quality standards, given the presence of nonattainment and maintenance areas for ozone and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) in the Region.

In 2021, the TIP was amended six times and administratively modified six times, always at the request of project implementers such as WisDOT, counties, or local units of government. These amendments substantially modified 58 existing projects and added 94 new projects to the TIP. Proposed amendments are reviewed by the five TIP Committees prior to being approved by the Commission. Six administrative modifications corrected errors or made relatively small changes to project scope, timing, and funding sources.

The 2021-2024 TIP, as amended in 2021, contains 490 projects representing a total potential investment in transportation improvements and services of \$2.85 billion over four years. Of this total, \$1.63 billion, or about 57.4 percent, is proposed to be provided in Federal aids; \$834 million, or about 29.3 percent, in State funds; and \$380 million, or about 13.3 percent, in local funds. The breakdown of the expenditures in the four years of the TIP are shown in the figure below:

2021-2024 TIP Expenditures by Project Type



Also in 2021, Commission staff initiated or completed work related to the selection of projects for Federal highway and transit funding. In October 2021, Commission staff initiated the evaluation of candidate projects for 2026-2027 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Milwaukee Urbanized Area (STP-M) funding. A total of 45 projects requesting \$262.9 million in federal funding were submitted for an available \$42.3 million in 2026-2027 STP-M funding. In addition, Commission staff initiated the evaluation, along with WisDOT and WDNR staffs, of projects for 2025-2026 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funding. A total of 14 projects requesting \$30.3 million in federal funding were submitted for an available \$24.4 million in 2025-2026 CMAQ funding. The evaluation and recommendation of projects for both STP-M and CMAQ funding would be completed in early 2022.

VISION 2050

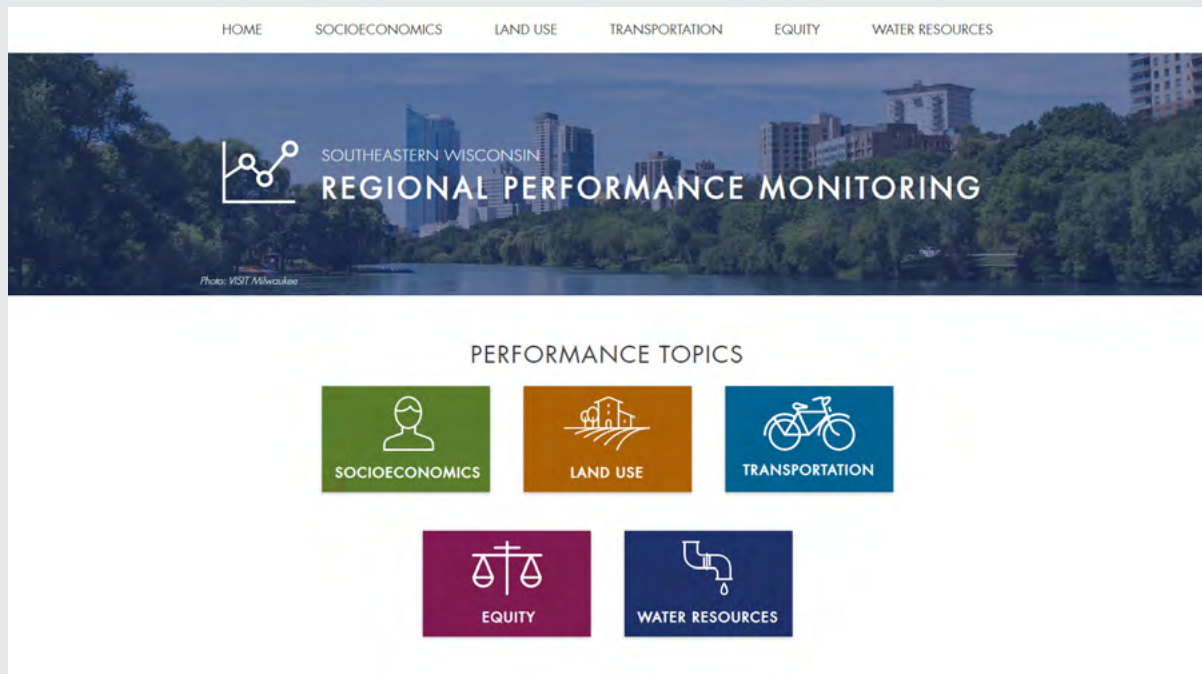
VISION 2050 is the long-range land use and transportation plan for Southeastern Wisconsin. It was originally adopted by the Commission in 2016 and was updated in 2020. It makes recommendations to local and State government to shape and guide land use development and transportation improvement to the year 2050 and was developed with extensive input from residents, stakeholders, and the Commission's Advisory Committees on Regional Land Use and Transportation Planning. The plan's transportation component is essential to ensure that State, county, and local governments maintain eligibility to obtain highway and transit funding from the USDOT.



The most recent review and update of VISION 2050 was an opportunity to update recommendations to improve quality of life throughout Southeastern Wisconsin and make the Region more competitive over the next several decades. The plan included an updated financial analysis for transportation that identified a significant funding gap between reasonably expected transportation revenues and what revenues are needed to implement the VISION 2050 transportation system. Updated equity analyses also identified significant disparities by racial and ethnic categories in the Region and showed that implementing VISION 2050 would help to reduce these disparities by providing more equitable access to opportunities through improved access to jobs, education, healthcare, and other activities. Without additional funding to implement the VISION 2050 public transit element, the plan notes that a disparate impact on the Region's people of color, low-income populations, and people with disabilities is likely to occur.

While no major work products were prepared for the plan in 2021, Commission staff spent a significant amount of time and effort sharing recommendations and conclusions from VISION 2050 and supporting plan implementation through its regional planning program. Many of the individual planning efforts and studies highlighted in the annual report come out of or are aligned with VISION 2050 and represent the ongoing nature of regional plan implementation activities. The TIP, CEDS, Regional Food System Plan, Regional Housing Plan, local/county comprehensive plans, transit development plans, the North-South Transit Enhancement Study, and many other efforts are all connected back to VISION 2050 in some way. The plan is also central to much of the Commission's public outreach efforts.

Credit: VISIT Milwaukee



Performance Monitoring Website

Commission staff completed the performance monitoring website, which launched on September 7, 2021. The website replaces the former performance monitoring section of past annual reports. The maps, tables, figures shown on the website are interactive, which allows the viewer flexibility in displaying and understanding the data shown compared to previous printed or digital annual reports. In addition, this website will be updated as new data become available. www.performance-sewrpc.org

Other Transportation Activities

- ▶ In support of WDNR's development of a second 10-year PM_{2.5} Maintenance Plan, Commission staff developed and provided VMT 2017-2035 growth rates.
- ▶ In 2021, Commission staff continued to operate and maintain a non-motorized count program. The program has grown since it was initiated in 2015 as more communities within the Region have purchased and installed trail counters, allowing the Commission to add new sites to the Region's count program. In 2021, the Commission collected 49 short-term counts in addition to its four permanent sites.

Surveying, Mapping, and Land Information

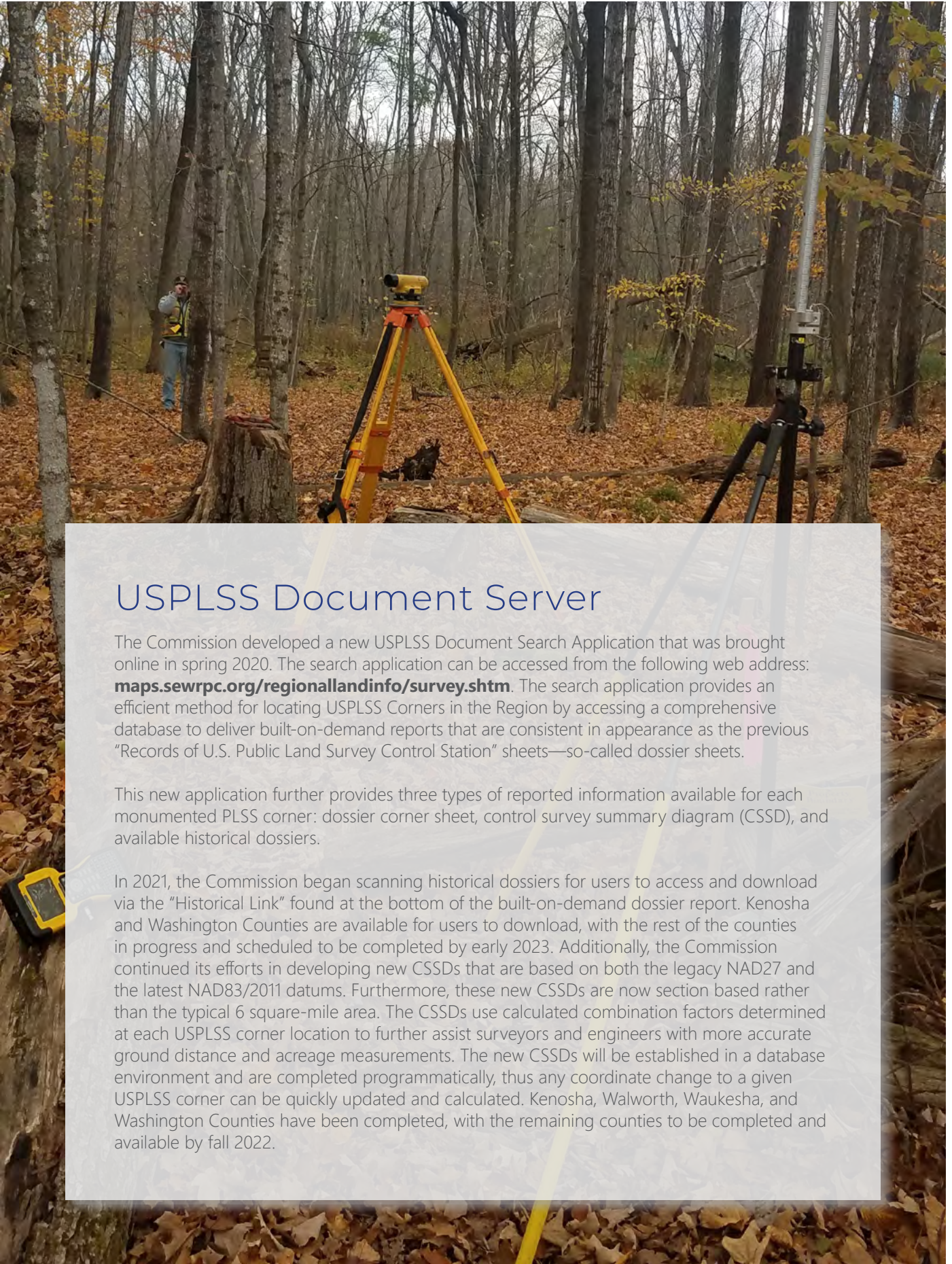
The Commission has long recognized the need for accurate base data depicting the shape of the land's surface and the precise location of its physical features, both natural and manmade. Since 1961, the Commission has been a resource for counties and communities regarding surveying and mapping practices. In this role, the Commission prepared general purpose base layers of the entire Region in the 1960s and has ensured that they stay current. The Commission has also long recommended keeping up-to-date data with a high degree of accuracy and precision for use in more localized planning efforts. To this end, the Commission has continuously worked with county and local governments to implement a survey control system and various geospatial recommendations. The recommended approach to surveying and geospatial services has provided a strong foundation for both the Region's county and local digital land information systems and public works management systems.



The four key aspects of this process include:

- ▶ **Corner Monumentation:** The permanent monumentation of all U.S. Public Land Survey System (USPLSS) section, quarter section, and center of section corners in the Region.
- ▶ **Control Surveys:** Field surveys to enhance each monument as a station of a known horizontal and vertical position on both the USPLSS and State Plane Coordinate System, along with documentation of the entire control network.
- ▶ **Digital Cartography:** Large-scale (1 inch=100 feet) topographic digital base maps along with Orthoimagery that combines image characteristics of an aerial photograph with the geometric qualities of a map and Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR). LiDAR is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges (variable distances) to generate precise, three-dimensional information about the shape of the Earth and its surface characteristics.
- ▶ **Cadastral Mapping:** Preparing companion, correlated real property ownership data layers and maps based on Commission-recommended standards.

Since 1984, the Commission has carried out the responsibilities of the Milwaukee County Surveyor, including ensuring the perpetuation of those corners of the USPLSS that are destroyed, removed, or buried through construction or other activities. Given this State-mandated responsibility and the need to maintain a capable staff to perform the County Surveyor function, the Commission also provides County Surveyor services to Kenosha, Ozaukee, Walworth, and Waukesha Counties and has a separate agreement with the WisDOT to assist the County Surveyor in Racine County. In performing these County Surveyor duties during 2021, the Commission monumented a total of 215 USPLSS corners that had been disturbed or destroyed through a range of activities, primarily road reconstruction activities. These activities included field work as well as substantial office work to update documentation of the corners concerned, including new corner dossier sheets and control survey summary diagrams.



USPLSS Document Server

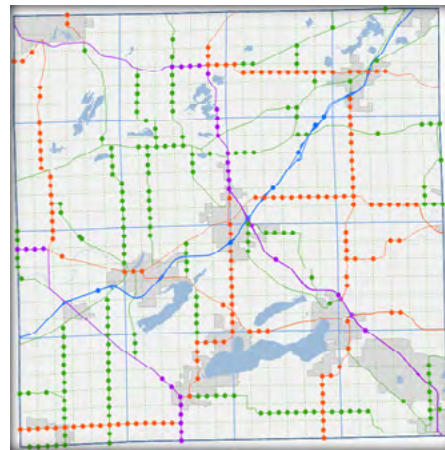
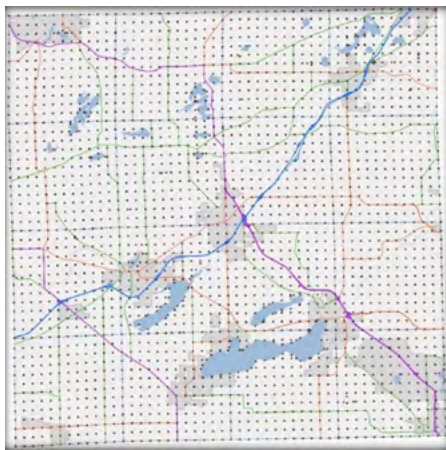
The Commission developed a new USPLSS Document Search Application that was brought online in spring 2020. The search application can be accessed from the following web address: **maps.sewrpc.org/regionallandinfo/survey.shtm**. The search application provides an efficient method for locating USPLSS Corners in the Region by accessing a comprehensive database to deliver built-on-demand reports that are consistent in appearance as the previous “Records of U.S. Public Land Survey Control Station” sheets—so-called dossier sheets.

This new application further provides three types of reported information available for each monumented PLSS corner: dossier corner sheet, control survey summary diagram (CSSD), and available historical dossiers.

In 2021, the Commission began scanning historical dossiers for users to access and download via the “Historical Link” found at the bottom of the built-on-demand dossier report. Kenosha and Washington Counties are available for users to download, with the rest of the counties in progress and scheduled to be completed by early 2023. Additionally, the Commission continued its efforts in developing new CSSDs that are based on both the legacy NAD27 and the latest NAD83/2011 datums. Furthermore, these new CSSDs are now section based rather than the typical 6 square-mile area. The CSSDs use calculated combination factors determined at each USPLSS corner location to further assist surveyors and engineers with more accurate ground distance and acreage measurements. The new CSSDs will be established in a database environment and are completed programmatically, thus any coordinate change to a given USPLSS corner can be quickly updated and calculated. Kenosha, Walworth, Waukesha, and Washington Counties have been completed, with the remaining counties to be completed and available by fall 2022.



USPLSS Monuments and Corners Within 50 Feet of Walworth County's Highway System



Integrating GIS with Surveying

Land surveyors have long depended on a variety of software and technologies to gather existing information, collect new information, make measurements, and produce maps. Geographic Information System (GIS) technology brings this functionality to one place and enables managing, reusing, and analyzing data efficiently.

The USPLSS remains critically important in support of Commission-recommended digital base layers. The Commission's new USPLSS document search application, described on the previous page, is built on a SQL database and warehouses all approximately 12,000 USPLSS corners in the Region. The migration to this database enabled the Commission to extract all attributes associated with each USPLSS corner so users could explore additional analysis opportunities.

USPLSS corners are continuously subject to damage, disturbance, and destruction through rural and urban land use development activities. Roadway and utility construction and reconstruction most frequently impact USPLSS corners. With the new search application and centralized database, the Commission staff is now able to complete query searches, which is where GIS technology can be integrated. GIS has given Commission staff a better understanding of the number of corner locations that could be at-risk or damaged during road maintenance. By using the existing road centerline base layer and USPLSS corner database, staff can query all corners within 50 feet of the road to demonstrate the number of USPLSS corners possibly at risk of being damaged or destroyed due to road maintenance. The ability to integrate GIS with surveying provides a more effective way to make public works directors and others involved in the roadway design and construction process aware of the USPLSS corners so that these corners can be properly maintained.

2015 Land Use Inventory

Classified as Unused Urban Lands



2020 Land Use Inventory

Classified as Mixed-Use Business and Residential



2020 Regional Land Use Inventory

During 2021, the Commission initiated work on a major update of the regional land use inventory to the year 2020. Local units of government will be able to reference this update as they undertake efforts to revise their comprehensive plans in the coming years, and this updated inventory will be used to track progress on implementing the land use component of the regional plan (currently VISION 2050). This inventory identifies existing land uses throughout the entire Region using a classification system with over 60 land use categories as first determined in 1963, and has served throughout the agency's history as vital base information regarding the Region's existing built and unbuilt environment. Analysis of the inventory data identifies growth and change that occurred within the Region with respect to urban development and its impact on environmentally sensitive lands and prime farmlands. The Commission completed similar land use inventories for the Region for the years 1963, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2010, and 2015.

Orthophotographs serve as the primary basis for identifying the existing land uses, augmented by available oblique aerial photographs, other online resources, and field surveys as needed. The Commission anticipates completing this inventory in 2023.

The example above shows economic development and an example (from the City of Oconomowoc) of the kind of changes that can occur in a five-year time span. The area identified in these photos was categorized as "Unused Urban Lands" in the Commission's 2015 Land Use Inventory. Utilizing 2020 orthophoto imagery, Commission staff identified this new development and will re-classify this land as "Mixed-Use Business and Residential" in the 2020 Land Use Inventory.

Coastal Management Planning

The Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) was established in 1978 under the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act to preserve and improve Wisconsin's Great Lakes coastal resources. During 2021, the Commission continued to provide assistance to the Wisconsin Department of Administration and coastal communities related to the program, including:

- ▶ Conducting field investigations associated with the evaluation of environmental corridors, wetlands, and other sensitive lands in the coastal management area
- ▶ Reviewing proposed sanitary sewer extensions in the coastal management area
- ▶ Assisting counties, state and local governments, and other organizations with programs and projects to improve near-shore water quality and habitat value
- ▶ Briefing the Wisconsin Coastal Council on relevant Commission activities

Staff also continued work on the Southeastern Wisconsin Coastal Resilience Study in collaboration with the WCMP, the UW Sea Grant Institute, and the UW-Madison Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. The three-year study focuses on the Lake Michigan coast in Ozaukee, Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha Counties. Deliverables for the study will include:

- ▶ Projecting future shoreline recession
- ▶ Developing guidance materials for implementing risk reduction practices and communicating risk along the coastal shoreline
- ▶ Organizing a network for communities to collaborate
- ▶ Identifying coastal resilience projects to fund

Natural Resource Planning

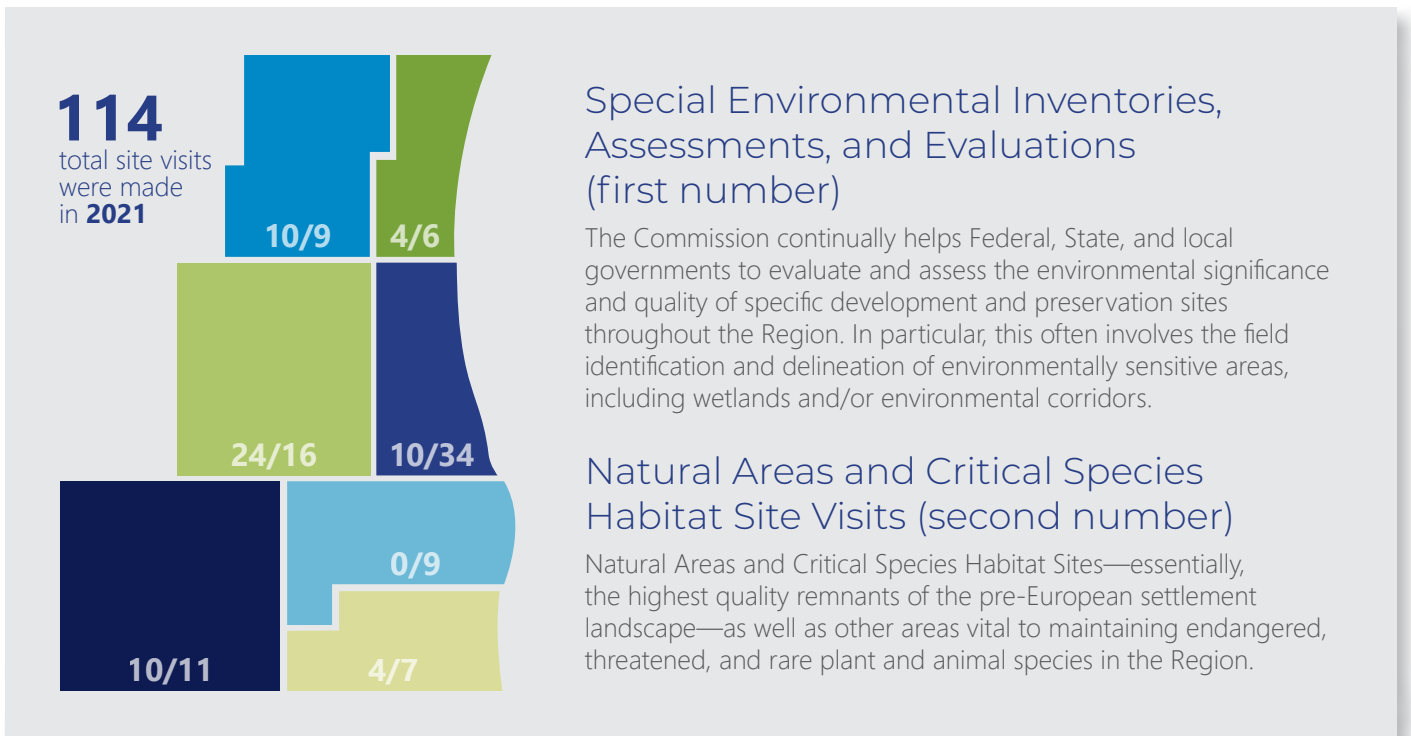
The Commission completed field inspections for a total of 71 requests in 2021 for special environmental inventories, assessments, and evaluations for a wide variety and scale of projects. These inspections are summarized below:

- ▶ Individual Development Parcel (25)
- ▶ Large Residential or Commercial Development Project (25)
- ▶ Individual Transportation Project (6)
- ▶ Evaluation of Existing and Proposed Public Park Site (4)
- ▶ Municipal/Private Utility or Public Facility Development Project (5)
- ▶ Transportation Corridors (6)

In 2021, the Commission continued work to update the Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan (SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42). Two Technical Advisory Committee meetings and one Aquatic Habitat Subcommittee meeting were held in 2021. Significant progress has been made to update site profiles, a digital database, and maps, and to re-rank of natural areas (including Water Classification) and critical species habitat sites.

A total of 92 designated or proposed natural areas and critical species habitats were visited by staff in 2021. These visits were conducted either to inform the Commission’s natural areas planning or at the request of various governments or conservation nonprofit organizations. No formal amendments were made to the Regional Natural Areas Plan during the year, but several changes were identified for inclusion in the future amendment to the Natural Areas Plan (pending approval by the Advisory Committee) among the three categories below:

- ▶ **New sites:** Three new natural areas of local significance (NA-3) were identified (one in Washington County, one in Waukesha County, one in Kenosha County).
- ▶ **Upgraded sites:** Three sites will be proposed as upgrades from critical species habitats to natural areas of local significance (NA-3) (two in Milwaukee County and two in Waukesha County), two sites from local significance (NA-3) to regional significance (NA-2) (one in Waukesha County, one in Milwaukee County), and one site from regional significance (NA-2) to statewide significance (NA-1) in Waukesha County.
- ▶ **Downgraded sites:** Field work identified three sites previously classified as natural areas that will be recommended for removal as they no longer represent a locally significant natural area. Downgrades typically occur in response to declining habitat quality caused by concentrations of invasive species.



Sanitary Sewer Service Area Planning

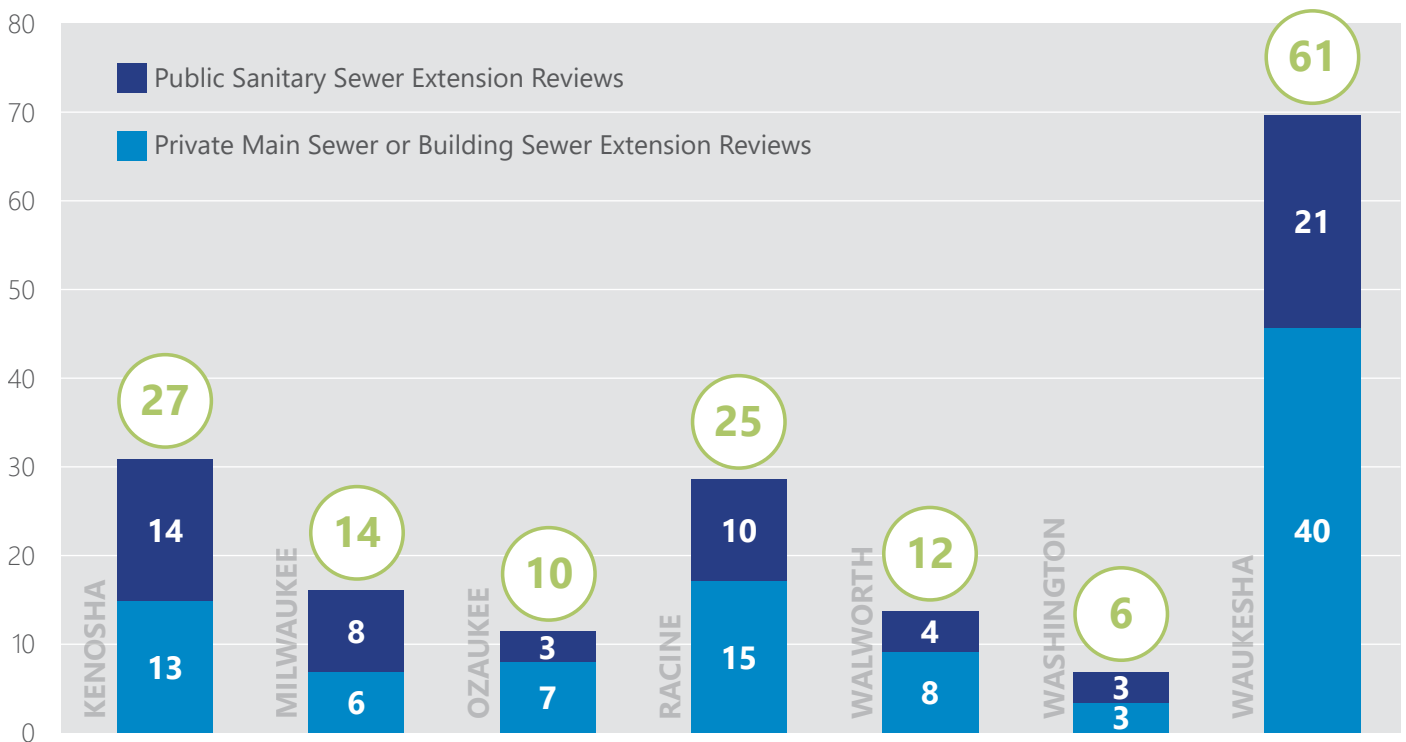
The Commission's Regional Water Quality Plan provides for sound watershed planning and preservation and was designed to make the Region's waters "fishable and swimmable" to the extent practical. An important element of the Regional Water Quality Plan relates to recommendations for wastewater treatment plants and the wastewater conveyance systems that flow to those plants. In 2021, the Commission continued to work with local engineers and consultants to prepare detailed local sewerage facilities plans designed to meet Federal Clean Water Act and Wisconsin Clean Water Fund requirements. The initial Water Quality Plan delineated 85 sanitary sewer service areas tributary to each recommended public sewage treatment plant in the Region. In ongoing work since then, staff has refined and detailed many of these sewer service areas in cooperation with local units of government. During 2021, the Commission initiated a comprehensive update of the sanitary sewer service area plan for the Village of Slinger and initiated an amendment of the sanitary sewer service area plan for the City of Oak Creek to revise and re-delineate portions of a primary environmental corridor.

As part of its sewer service area planning efforts, the Commission is required to review and comment on all proposed public sanitary sewer extensions and certain proposed private sanitary sewer extensions and large onsite sewage disposal systems and holding tanks relative to their conformance to the adopted Water Quality Plan.

92
Public
Sewer
Extensions

155
Review Comments
on Proposed
Sewer Extensions

63
Private
Sewer
Extensions

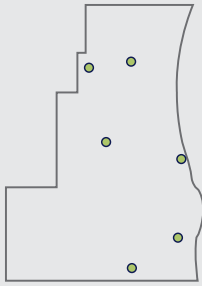


ASSISTANCE

Since its inception in 1960, the Commission has assisted county and local governments with a wide range of plans related to land use, parks, transportation, and natural resources. This assistance promotes coordination between regional and local plans, helps county and local governments implement plans, and encourages the sound physical development of the Region. Services are available to all county and local governments that participate in and financially support the regional planning program. Highlights from 2021 are on the following pages and include assistance with:

- ▶ Comprehensive planning
- ▶ Watershed restoration planning
- ▶ Floodplain and stormwater management planning
- ▶ Lake and river management planning
- ▶ Public transit and other transportation planning
- ▶ Park and open space planning
- ▶ Economic development
- ▶ Redistricting
- ▶ Data provision and other technical assistance

Comprehensive Planning

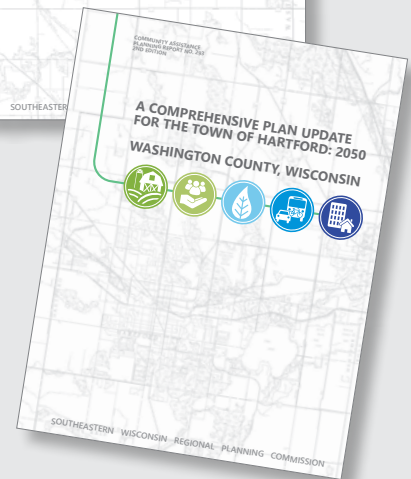
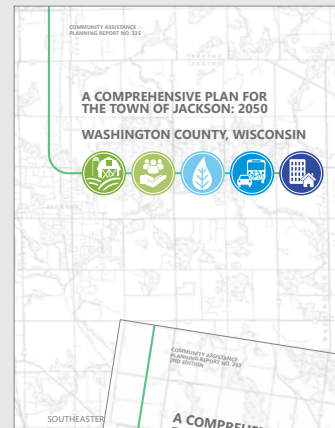


In 1999, the Wisconsin Legislature enacted a comprehensive planning law, which is set forth in Section 66.1001 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The requirements, which are often referred to as the “Smart Growth” law, provide a framework for developing, adopting, implementing, updating, and amending comprehensive plans in Wisconsin. The law includes a consistency requirement, which means that local zoning, subdivision, and official mapping ordinances need to be consistent with the local comprehensive plan.

Subsequently, the Region’s counties, cities, villages, and towns have adopted comprehensive plans to address the nine comprehensive planning elements and corresponding goals, objectives, policies, and programs required by the comprehensive planning law. The Commission assisted many of these communities, ranging from providing various inventory and demographic data to plan writing in cooperation with counties and communities working together in multi-jurisdictional planning efforts.

Section 66.1001(2)(i) of the State’s comprehensive planning law requires that comprehensive plans be updated no less than once every 10 years. As such, many counties and communities have, or will shortly, undertake 10-year updates of their comprehensive plan. Because of the important role comprehensive plans play in local and regional planning efforts, the Commission continues to offer its assistance to update these plans. Major comprehensive planning activities in 2021 included:

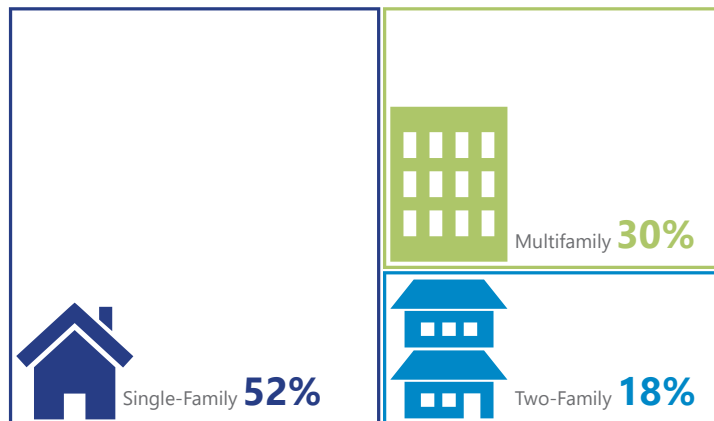
- ▶ **Town of Jackson Comprehensive Plan:** Staff completed work on a 10-year update to the Town’s comprehensive plan with a focus on extending the land use plan map to the design year 2050. The plan was adopted by the Town Board and was subsequently printed and published by the Commission.
- ▶ **Town of Hartford Comprehensive Plan:** Staff completed work on a 10-year update to the Town’s comprehensive plan with a focus on extending the land use plan map to the design year 2050. The plan was adopted by the Town Board and was subsequently printed and published by the Commission.
- ▶ **City of Cudahy Comprehensive Plan:** Staff completed work on a 10-year update to the City’s comprehensive plan with a focus on extending the land use plan map to the design year 2050 by incorporating the Gateway and City Center Plan that was recently prepared for the City by RINKA, and proposed recommendations for redeveloping the South Packard Avenue corridor. The plan was adopted by the Common Council and was subsequently printed and published by the Commission.
- ▶ **City of Waukesha Comprehensive Plan:** Staff initiated work on a 10-year update to the City’s comprehensive plan with a focus on extending the land use plan map to the design year 2050, incorporating sustainability concepts throughout the plan, and incorporating new and additional public outreach efforts.
- ▶ **Village of Salem Lakes Comprehensive Plan:** Staff initiated work on a 10-year update to the Village’s comprehensive plan with a focus on extending the land use plan map to the design year 2050 and incorporating more flexible land use categories.
- ▶ **Village of Somers Comprehensive Plan:** Staff initiated work on a 10-year update to the Village’s comprehensive plan with a focus on extending the land use plan map to the design year 2050, incorporating a review of development opportunities along certain highway corridors, and incorporating discussion of a possible Village Center.



City of Cudahy Comprehensive Plan Update

In accordance with State law, the Cudahy Common Council adopted a 10-year comprehensive plan update in 2021. The new report serves as a supplemental update to the City's 2009 plan, which contains policies and recommendations that continue to support the City's vision. Updated inventory and projection data, including population, household, and employment data, extends the design year of the City's comprehensive plan from 2020 to 2050.

Housing Types in the City: 2018



Credit: RINKA

Long-range objectives in the plan:

- ▶ Maintain existing neighborhoods and increase the amount of quality housing opportunities
- ▶ Continue to develop downtown as a vital destination
- ▶ Accommodate development for a mix of uses at appropriate densities and locations throughout the City
- ▶ Promote catalytic mixed-use redevelopments at key sites
- ▶ Ensure development provides amenities and improves quality of life for residents and the workforce
- ▶ Incorporate pedestrian and vehicular connections that promote multimodal accessibility.

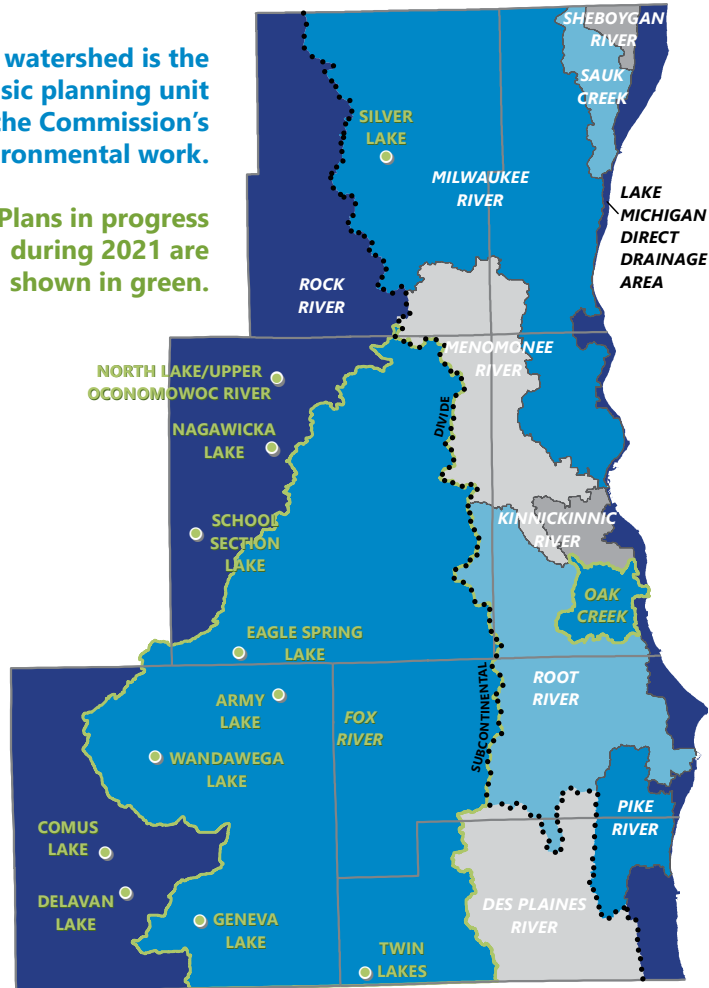
The report contains a review of plans adopted since 2009 that may affect land use in the City, including the Cudahy Gateway and City Center Plan, and updates the City's land use plan map.

Lake and River Management Planning

During 2021, Commission staff worked on 13 watershed management/restoration plans. These plans focus on multiple issues such as aquatic plant growth and management, water quality, watershed conditions, pollutant (nutrient and sediment) sources and transport, identifying and prioritizing parcels for implementing best management practices, groundwater recharge protection, algae, shoreline maintenance, recreation, public access, water levels, and wildlife. Work during 2021 addressed the following lake and stream watersheds:

The watershed is the basic planning unit for the Commission's environmental work.

Plans in progress during 2021 are shown in green.



Lake Management Planning

- ▶ Twin (Elizabeth and Mary) Lakes (Kenosha County)
- ▶ Comus, Delavan, Geneva, Army, and Wandawega Lakes (Walworth County)
- ▶ Silver Lake (Washington County)
- ▶ Eagle Spring, Nagawicka, North, and School Section Lakes (Waukesha County)

River Management Planning

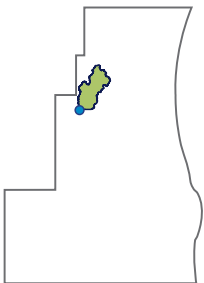
- ▶ Fox River (Kenosha, Racine, and Waukesha Counties)
- ▶ Oak Creek (Milwaukee County)
- ▶ Oconomowoc River (Washington and Waukesha Counties)
- ▶ Geneva Lake Tributaries (Walworth County)

Nagawicka Lake



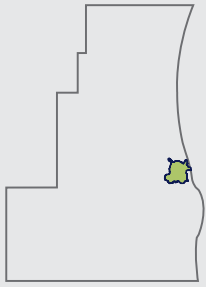
The Commission completed a comprehensive study of Nagawicka Lake, a 1,010-acre lake along the Bark River in Waukesha County, in 2021 at the request of the City of Delafield. Commission staff assessed the Lake's shoreline, nearshore lake-bottom sediment, aquatic plant community, and recreational use as well as channel obstructions, stormwater outfalls, and streambank erosion along 8.5 miles of the Bark River. Additionally, the Commission characterized the physical features, natural resources, and human uses of the Lake's 44.7-square-mile watershed and estimated nonpoint source pollutant loads, which are the phosphorus and sediment pollution amounts delivered to the Lake from surface runoff and other sources across its watershed. As described in the plan, Nagawicka Lake supports a diverse and productive fishery, maintains a healthy aquatic plant community, and supports a wide variety of recreational uses. However, nonpoint source pollutant loading contributes to water quality problems as well as sediment accumulating at the mouth of the Bark River. In addressing pollutant loading concerns, Commission staff set goals on how much pollution should be decreased based on the Rock River Total Maximum Daily Load project, recommended conservation practices to reduce pollution runoff, prioritized areas to install conservation practices, and suggested potential funding sources. Actively implementing the recommendations and strategies outlined in the management plan will lead to improved water quality for human and wildlife uses as well as healthier ecosystems in the Lake and its watershed.

Oconomowoc River



The upper Oconomowoc River stretches over 20 miles from its headwaters near Slinger in southern Washington County through northern Waukesha County before entering North Lake in the Town of Merton. The Oconomowoc River has long contributed to water quality problems in North Lake, with particularly significant instances following a series of dam repairs and failures over the past few decades. At the request of the North Lake Management District, Commission staff surveyed 3.6 miles of the River from the Monches Dam to North Lake to examine sediment depth and distribution, streambank erosion, and differences in the River's features from upstream to downstream (e.g., water depth, velocity, width, slope). Staff also modeled how much phosphorus and sediment pollution is contributed to the Lake by surface runoff in the upper Oconomowoc River watershed.

Minimal streambank erosion was observed on the River's lower reach, so surface runoff is thought to be the main source of phosphorus and sediment pollution. The River has largely flushed out sediment from previous events, leading to sediment accumulating in the North Lake inlet area where the Oconomowoc River discharges into the Lake. As decreasing pollution will provide the greatest benefits to the River and North Lake, Commission staff recommended conservation practices to reduce runoff, targeted priority areas, and suggested funding sources to implement these practices. Several partners in the watershed, including the North Lake Management District, Tall Pines Conservancy, and the Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program, strive to monitor and improve water quality in the watershed. Continued support of these organizations and their work will better protect the Oconomowoc River and North Lake.



Oak Creek Watershed Restoration Plan

In 2021, the Commission completed a restoration plan for the Oak Creek watershed in partnership with the municipalities in the watershed, Milwaukee County, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), WDNR, and the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network. This plan addresses impairments that have been identified in this 28-square-mile watershed located in the Cities of Cudahy, Franklin, Greenfield, Milwaukee, Oak Creek, and South Milwaukee in Milwaukee County.



The Oak Creek watershed faces numerous challenges and threats. Water quality in streams of the watershed is poor due to high concentrations of chloride, nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen, and bacteria indicating fecal contamination. Stream channels in the watershed are highly modified, which contributes to problems such as poor habitat, flashy flows, and excessive deposition of sediment in some stream channels. Upstream from the Mill Pond dam, the watershed contains poor to fair quality biological communities. The presence of exotic and invasive species is degrading the quality of aquatic, wetland, riparian, and upland areas in the watershed.



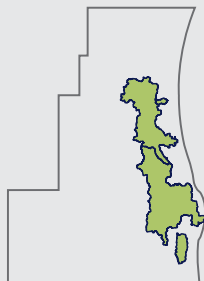
The plan provides general recommendations for managing land and water resources related to water quality, habitat, and recreational access and use. It provides recommendations for addressing flooding at targeted locations and five alternatives for managing the Mill Pond and Mill Pond dam. The plan also recommends over 400 specific projects that could be implemented to address water quality, habitat, recreational access and use, and flooding. Recommendations include restoring stream channels, woodlands, grasslands, and wetlands; stabilizing eroding streambanks; managing invasive species; and establishing, enlarging, and maintaining riparian buffers. The plan places a strong emphasis on installing green infrastructure practices.



The plan is designed to address the nine key elements that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has identified as critical for achieving improvements in water quality. The plan has been submitted to WDNR and USEPA for review for consistency with these elements. A finding of consistency makes projects recommended under the plan eligible for funding through certain Federal programs.

In 2021, Commission staff completed work on the final two chapters of the plan. Chapter 5 sets forth goals and objectives for the management of water quantity, water quality, habitat, recreational access and use, and the Mill Pond and dam. Chapter 6 presents recommendations for the management of the watershed. As part of the planning process, Commission staff also met with the plan Advisory Group, various stakeholders, and members of the public to review aspects of the plan and solicit their contributions to plan development.

Floodplain and Stormwater Management



The Commission maintains a continuing program to address stormwater and floodplain management issues. This program was initiated long before the concepts of local floodplain zoning and Federal flood insurance had been widely adopted. From 1966 through 2003, staff prepared comprehensive plans for most of the Region's watersheds. Each plan included development of hydrologic and hydraulic computer simulation models and detailed flood profiles and floodplain maps along numerous streams and rivers within each watershed. That information, refined and updated over time, serves as the basis for local floodplain zoning and Federal flood insurance mapping throughout much of the Region. Due to significant expertise in hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, Commission staff are regularly involved in floodplain and stormwater management planning activities across the Region. Highlights for stormwater and floodplain work during 2021 are included in this section.

Regulatory Review of Regional Floodplain Mapping Studies

Commission staff continued to seek regulatory approval of several hydrologic and hydraulic modeling and floodplain mapping efforts for the Region in 2021 as summarized below.

- ▶ The models and floodplain maps for the South Branch Pike River and its five tributaries were completed to support Kenosha County's interest in future stream restoration and floodplain improvement projects. The models and maps were submitted to WDNR and are currently under the regulatory review and approval process.
- ▶ The Root River watershed hydrologic model completed for the Milwaukee County Land Information Council (formerly MCAMLIS) and MMSD was reviewed and approved by WDNR in 2021.
- ▶ The preliminary floodplain models and maps for all the Menomonee River tributaries completed as part of the Milwaukee County effort were reviewed and approved by WDNR in 2021. These tributaries include Honey Creek, Woods Creek, Grantosa Creek, Dretzka Park Tributary, the Little Menomonee River, and Little Menomonee Creek. The Menomonee River mainstem upstream of W. North Avenue is the only remaining stream from this effort still in the WDNR regulatory review process.

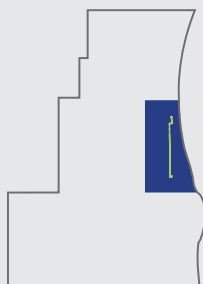
Watercourse System Plan for Honey Creek

In 2021, Commission staff continued work on the Honey Creek Watercourse System Plan. This plan evaluated flood risks identified under the WDNR-approved floodplain models and developed six alternative plans to mitigate those flood risks along Honey Creek. The alternative plans incorporate flood mitigation measures including voluntary acquisition and demolition of flood prone structures, voluntary elevation of flood prone structures, bridge improvements along Honey Creek, and rehabilitation of the concrete-lined segments of Honey Creek.

Watercourse Management Plan for Beaver Creek

Staff continued work on a Beaver Creek watercourse management plan for MMSD to address flooded structures in the Village of Brown Deer. Flood mitigation solutions include channel daylighting, structure floodproofing, and the voluntary acquisition of flooded structures. In 2021, the Commission staff worked on an expanded scope of work to analyze a recently completed channel restoration effort on the creek and to incorporate the MMSD Flood Risk Reduction Policy, adopted in 2020.

Milwaukee North-South Transit Enhancement Study



Work continued on the Milwaukee North-South Transit Enhancement Study, which began in May 2020 and aims to identify options for improved transit service along 27th Street in Milwaukee County. Enhanced transit along this corridor—which is home to the PurpleLine, one of the highest ridership routes in the County—will provide better transit access and service by reducing transit travel times and improving stops with amenities that will better serve current riders and attract new riders. People of color make up nearly 75 percent of the population along the study corridor, 21 percent of households do not have a car, 25 percent are experiencing poverty, and 15 percent of people have a disability, making an investment in transit in this corridor very consistent with Milwaukee County's focus on equity.

Throughout the study, Milwaukee County, Milwaukee County Transit System, and SEWRPC staff have prioritized extensive public outreach. In May 2021, SEWRPC initiated a partnership with five community- and neighborhood-based organizations who have a longstanding presence in underserved neighborhoods in the corridor. Through an agreement that included payment for services, the community partners assisted the study team with providing outreach along and near 27th Street. In addition, SEWRPC staff developed an English and Spanish study website, which included tools for providing public comments throughout the study; assembled a community advisory committee and a technical advisory committee to obtain input from community and local government representatives; conducted community, neighborhood, and business meetings; provided study updates at community events; met with elected officials; and hosted three rounds of public meetings in February, June, and October.

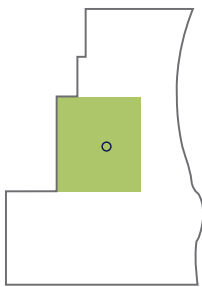
The third round of public meetings was held October 25, 27 (Spanish language), and 28, 2021. Public feedback was encouraged and received regarding transit technologies, route options, and station locations, and preliminary analyses of traffic and parking impacts resulting from dedicated transit lanes were also presented. After the team reviewed and considered the public comments, bus rapid transit (BRT) was identified as the transit technology that would best fit the needs of the corridor, and several route options and associated stations were eliminated from further consideration.

The remaining BRT routes and stations are being further refined and evaluated with a recommended transit enhancement alternative expected in Spring 2022, followed by completion of the study. Following the study, Milwaukee County will submit a request to the Federal Transit Administration to begin the environmental and design phases of the project. If successful, construction of the BRT stations, platforms, dedicated transit lanes (where applicable), and the purchase of electric buses will follow, with service expected to open to the public between 2025 and 2027.

This is the second BRT corridor being pursued by Milwaukee County, with the East-West BRT route currently under construction along Wisconsin Avenue and Bluemound Road and expected to open for service in 2023. Both corridors are among the eight recommended for rapid transit service in VISION 2050.



Waukesha Area Transit Development Plan



At the request of Waukesha County and the City of Waukesha, the Commission has been assisting with developing a short-range (five-year) plan for the City and County transit systems. As part of this planning effort, Commission staff prepared detailed analyses of key areas of concern or interest, which were reviewed by the Advisory Committee in early 2021. These key areas included enhancements to the Route 1 along the Bluemound Road corridor, potential mobility hubs, on-demand and flexible transportation solutions, and issues to consider as part of a potential route redesign for Waukesha Metro Transit.

In 2021, due to requests from communities and new funding, three of these key areas were explored in greater detail, which will further inform the Waukesha Area Transit Development Plan. First, at the request of the Cities of Waukesha and Brookfield, Commission staff developed an overview of potential transit enhancements along the Bluemound Road corridor. This study documented a range of enhancements, potential benefits of select transit enhancements, funding sources, and next steps. The document, entitled Bus Rapid Transit Concept Plan, was delivered in September 2021 and additional discussions with the partners are ongoing.

Second, Commission staff assisted with planning and implementing FlexRide Milwaukee, a new on-demand transportation service discussed on page 8. This pilot will provide insights that can inform future implementation of on-demand transportation in Waukesha County and beyond.

Third, Commission staff worked closely with Waukesha Metro to develop draft bus route changes, incorporating results from the route performance evaluation, current ridership trends, demographic data, and input from Waukesha Metro staff. Building on input from the Advisory Committee, Commission staff considered how any potential route changes would impact seniors, people of color, and lower-income individuals. The draft route changes will be considered by the Advisory Committee and the public in 2022.



Park and Open Space Planning



The Commission adopted a regional park and open space plan in 1977. The plan recommends preserving environmentally significant open space lands and providing sites and facilities for major resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities throughout the Region. Over time, the plan has been amended on a county-by-county basis, with Commission staff assisting in most county plan updates and the Commission adopting these updates as amendments to the regional park and open space plan. Staff also prepares park and open space plans for communities by request. In 2021, staff continued work on park and open space plan updates for Milwaukee and Walworth Counties and the Village of Mount Pleasant.

Credit: Village of Mount Pleasant

Model Planning Guides, Regulations, and Ordinances

In addition to comprehensive plans, the Commission prepares planning guides, regulations, and model ordinances that contain examples of good planning practice and aid local and county governments in their planning and zoning efforts. Work efforts during 2021 included:

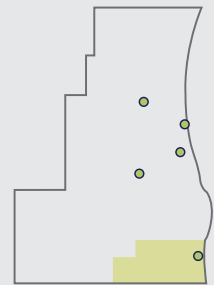
- ▶ **Zoning Guide:** Staff continued work on updating the Commission's zoning guide, focusing on the model zoning ordinance, with sections posted on the Commission website as they are completed. Priority is placed on sections impacted by changes in State law, a court decision, or that help implement local, county, and/or regional plans.
- ▶ **Model Land Division Ordinance:** Staff continually monitors changes in State law or court decisions that may impact the model land division ordinance that was completed in 2018 and is posted on the Commission website. Staff compiles information about any changes to pertinent State law and any pertinent court decisions for potential use in any future updates of the model ordinance that may occur.



Economic Development

The Commission's role in economic development is to assist county and local units of government and economic development organizations in the Region in pursuing economic development activities and to promote the coordination of local economic development plans and programs. Assistance during 2021 included:

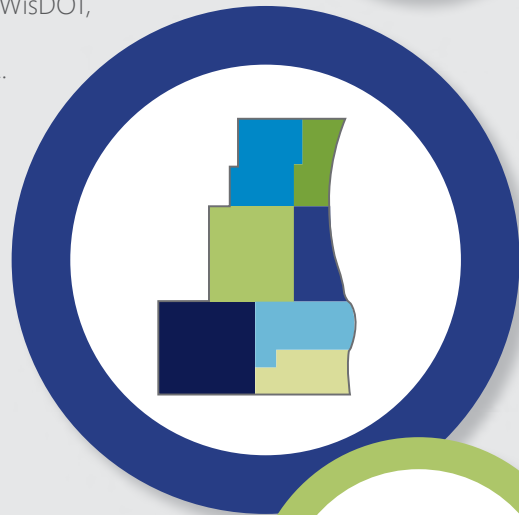
- ▶ **Economic Development Data:** In response to five data requests, staff provided 21 Economic Modeling Specialist International (EMSI) reports to county and local governments and economic development organizations. These reports, available through a partnership with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, can be customized to various geographies and provide valuable industry, occupation, and workforce information.
- ▶ **Federal and State Grant-In-Aid Support:** In aid to Kenosha County, staff administered several Federal grant awards to acquire and remove homes located in the Fox River floodplain and provided assistance in seeking funding opportunities for future acquisitions.
- ▶ **Revolving Loan Fund Support:** Staff provided assistance to the City of Muskego and the Villages of Menomonee Falls and Shorewood in administering existing loans, and approving new loans, from Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) programs that support business development. A Commission staff member also serves as the Kenosha County Housing Authority's Program Coordinator and administers the County's housing rehabilitation RLF. The Commission is responsible for providing information to Kenosha County residents outside the City of Kenosha for the packaging and closing of new housing assistance loans and for servicing outstanding loans. During 2021, five new loans were made and five loans were serviced. In addition, staff coordinated the County loan program and loan applications with the Southern Housing Region established by the Wisconsin Department of Administration. Staff worked diligently to reduce the Kenosha County Housing Authority RLF balance from approximately \$127,000 in mid-2014 to approximately \$10,000 at the end of 2021 by making additional loans to qualified low- and moderate-income households.
- ▶ **Aerotropolis Milwaukee:** Commission staff continued to participate in and support Aerotropolis Milwaukee development efforts, including serving on the Aerotropolis Milwaukee Board of Directors. Staff also worked with Gateway to Milwaukee staff to support implementation of the MKE Aerotropolis Development Plan prepared by Commission staff in 2017.



Other Transportation Planning and Assistance

The Commission regularly provides staff services and data to assist counties, local governments, and transit operators with transportation-related planning activities. Highlights from 2021 include:

- ▶ Completed Public Transit-Human Services Coordination Plans for each of the seven counties in the Region. Transit projects seeking funding from FTA Section 5310 program must be derived from a locally developed plan.
- ▶ In coordination with transit operators in the Region and WisDOT, developed and affirmed performance metrics for transit safety and transit asset management, as required by FTA.
- ▶ Coordinated with transit operators to establish the agreed-upon transit funding allocation method for FFY 2021 FTA funds, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA), and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), which included significant funding to support capital and operating expenses for transit with no required local match.
- ▶ Completed ridership estimates for a potential extension of MCTS Route 68 and updated the analysis of potential flexible shuttle routes for Ozaukee County.
- ▶ Completed the required transit asset management performance tracking and documentation for many of the Region's transit operators.
- ▶ Assisted transit operators with triennial review documentation, Title VI compliance, and other compliance questions as needed.
- ▶ Commission staff provided assistance to the Near West Side Partners (NWSP) and the Menomonee Valley Partnership (MVP) in evaluating improved connections—both transportation and land use—between the two neighborhoods along the I-94 corridor. This work is a collaboration of the two neighborhood groups, Commission staff, WisDOT, and the City of Milwaukee.
- ▶ At the request of the Town of Polk, Commission staff evaluated pavement conditions and updated the PASER ratings for the Town's roadways in WISLR.





Other Environmental Assistance

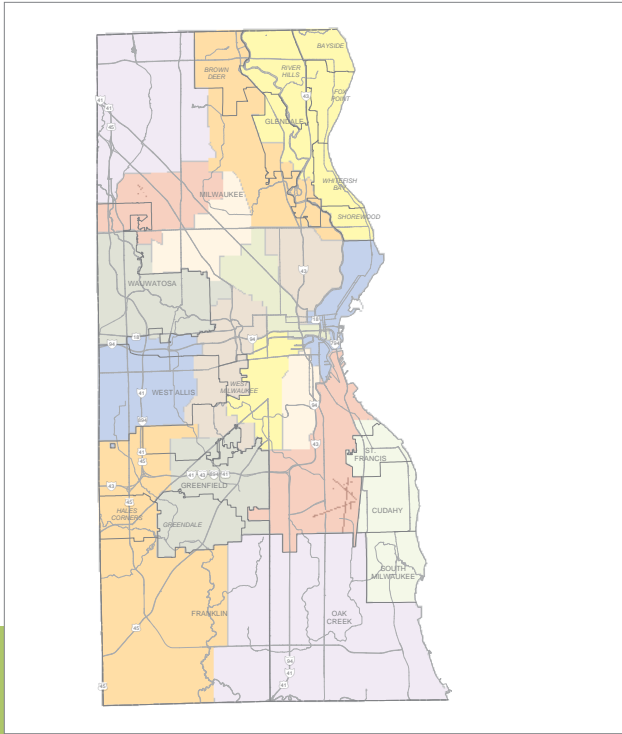
The Commission's work each year to support improving water quality necessitates providing a wide range of technical assistance, including collecting field data. Staff worked with all seven county governments and several municipalities on various water quality/aquatic habitat initiatives by providing technical information, guidance, advice, and/or training to entities throughout the Region in 2021. Selected examples are listed below:



- ▶ Ascertained groundwater condition at proposed boat launch site for wetland delineation purposes (Waukesha County)
- ▶ Assisted with aggregate mining runoff water quality enhancement (Walworth County)
- ▶ Assisted with evaluation of potential groundwater effect of proposed rural development (Ozaukee County)
- ▶ Evaluation of poor aquatic plant community conditions in Lac La Belle (Waukesha County)
- ▶ Facilitated user-led project scope identification, development, and budgets for surface water grant applications (Kenosha, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha Counties)
- ▶ Fish passage initiatives in the Milwaukee River (Milwaukee County)
- ▶ Initiated focused study evaluating chloride concentrations in Ulao Creek (Ozaukee County)
- ▶ Served on the Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern fish and wildlife technical team (Milwaukee, Washington, and Ozaukee Counties)
- ▶ Milwaukee River tributary stream connectivity (Ozaukee County)
- ▶ Provided evaluation and guidance regarding groundwater conditions, vegetation community, and bluff stability at Virmond Park (Ozaukee County)
- ▶ Served on technical advisory committees for Land and Water Resource Management Plan development (Walworth and Washington Counties)
- ▶ Studied water quality and wave action on North Lake for the North Lake Management District and Carroll University (Waukesha County)
- ▶ Served on the Mukwonago River Initiatives Science and Technical Working Group organized by the Nature Conservancy for the proposed water level outlet structure for Booth Lake
- ▶ Provided stormwater management infrastructure and ravine erosion repair design advice (Milwaukee County)
- ▶ Provided guidance regarding realigning and naturalizing Southwick Creek, a trout stream tributary to Geneva Lake (Walworth County)

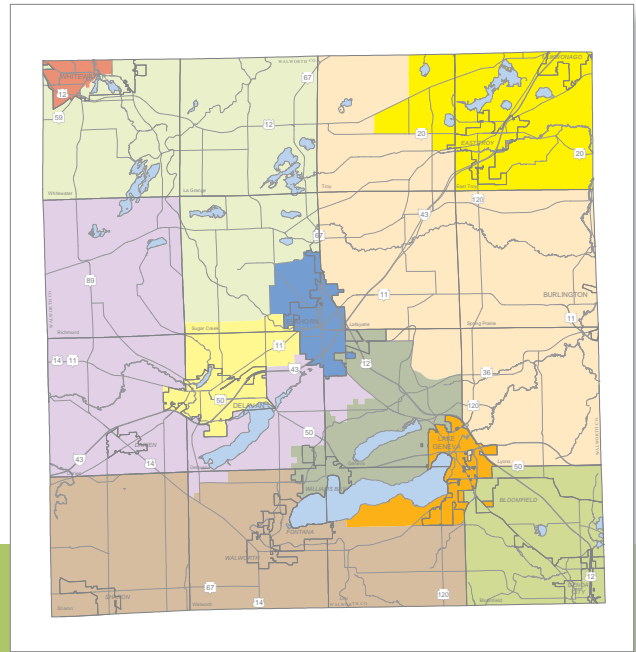
Milwaukee County Supervisory District Plan

November 2021



Walworth County Supervisory District Plan

September 2021



Redistricting



Every 10 years, following the receipt of certain demographic information from the Decennial U.S. Census, local governments redraw the voting wards and districts (if applicable) for local elected offices. Known as redistricting, this process can be a complex effort involving multiple levels of government. This year, Commission staff were pleased to assist Milwaukee and Walworth Counties with their redistricting efforts, as well as a number of cities, villages, and towns within those counties. Typically, local redistricting efforts for Wisconsin counties begins April of the year following a Decennial Census (2021, in this case). However, the U.S. Census Bureau was delayed in providing all states the needed data due to complications associated with performing the Census during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic in April 1 2020. In 2021, the needed data were not made available until August 16, resulting in local governments across the Region working on a significantly compressed schedule.

Under the direction of the Walworth County Board of Supervisors and the Milwaukee County Independent Redistricting Committee (IRC) (and then the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors following the conclusion of the IRC process), Commission staff worked to develop a series of potential supervisory district maps for each county to consider. Each county's process laid out a series of priorities to be balanced in the development of potential maps. Using web-based software provided by the State's Legislative Technology Services Bureau, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software owned by the Commission, U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census and American Community Survey data, and ward vote totals as needed, Commission staff worked with the counties to develop maps for public input. Following the adoption of tentative district maps by each county's board of supervisors, Commission staff assisted the cities, villages, and towns in each county that requested it with developing voting ward and district (if applicable) maps for their community. Changes in wards due to changes in population between 2010 and 2020 (the number of residents in each ward is dictated by *State Statutes*) then required further adjustments to the county supervisory district maps. Final maps were approved by the Walworth County Board of Supervisors on November 9, 2021, and the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors on November 22, 2021.

PARTNERSHIP & OUTREACH

The success of the Commission's work relies on strong partnerships with numerous stakeholders across the variety of planning topics the Commission addresses. This specifically includes consultation and coordination with governmental agencies and officials and others in its transportation planning and programming efforts. This valuable consultation is conducted primarily through Commission advisory committees, task forces on key issues, work with community partners, and engaging numerous groups representing disadvantaged populations. The partnerships and collaborations required for carrying out the Region's many water-related initiatives are another specific example. The Commission also recognizes that public participation is an important part of government decisions affecting many aspects of our lives. As such, there is a continual emphasis on effective outreach to residents of the diverse communities that make up Southeastern Wisconsin, led by the Commission's Public Involvement and Outreach Division. The following section highlights some of the key partnerships and outreach activities from 2021.



Regional Consultation Activities

The following summarizes regional transportation consultation activities conducted by the Commission pursuant to its Regional Transportation Consultation Process during 2021.

Advisory Committees on Transportation System Planning and Programming (TIP Committees)

- ▶ The Milwaukee Committee met two times to review and consider potential changes to the process to be used to evaluate, prioritize, and recommend projects for years 2026-2027 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program-Milwaukee Urbanized Area funding.
- ▶ Commission staff initiated work with WisDOT and WDNR staff on evaluating and recommending projects for years 2025-2026 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funding. This also entailed meeting with the TIP Committee Chairs to review and recommend the initial list of recommended projects. The list was transmitted to the WisDOT Secretary for his review and concurrence.

Advisory Committees on Transit Development Planning

- ▶ The Waukesha Area Committee met one time to guide work on a transit development plan for the City of Waukesha and Waukesha County and provide feedback on major topics for the plan, including Route 1 enhancements; Waukesha Metro Route redesign options; potential mobility hub locations, features, and amenities in Waukesha County; and mobility on-demand options.

Environmental Justice Task Force

- ▶ The Task Force met four times to discuss and provide input on various transportation-related planning efforts and projects as well as the draft CEDS and Regional Food System Plan.

Milwaukee North-South Transit Enhancement Study TAC and CAC

- ▶ The Milwaukee North-South Transit Enhancement Study team formed a community advisory committee (CAC) comprised of business improvements districts, neighborhood improvement districts, other community organizations, and stakeholders within the existing corridor, and a technical advisory committee (TAC) comprised of representatives from local governments along the corridor, WisDOT, and FTA. These groups reviewed documents, handouts, and information prior to public outreach meetings and served as liaisons to the groups they represent to ensure accurate project information was conveyed and feedback was collected. The TAC and CAC met three times each in 2021.

Environmental Partnerships and Collaborations

Within Southeastern Wisconsin, many water-related initiatives require ongoing partnerships and collaborations in some fashion. The Commission, in addition to specifically serving the counties and municipalities, regularly participates in a number of important initiatives across the Region with WDNR and community organizations including lake and stream management associations, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, conservancy groups, and land trusts.

Staff actively participated in organizational events and activities at local, regional, and statewide scales, including efforts such as attending meetings, supporting event logistics, serving on committees/boards, providing environmental outreach/education, and giving presentations to share information and management alternatives. In 2021, staff participated in events and activities with the following:

- ▶ Lake management districts, associations, committees, protection and rehabilitation districts, and sanitary districts, including those servicing Friess and Silver Lakes (Washington County); Ashippun, Denoon, Eagle Spring, Fowler, Hunters, Lac La Belle, North, Pewaukee, School Section, and Spring Brook Lakes (Waukesha County); Army, Comus, Delavan, Geneva, Green, Lorraine, Middle, Mill, Rice, Wandawega, and Whitewater Lakes (Walworth County); and Camp, Center, Mary, and Elizabeth Lakes (Kenosha County)
- ▶ Carroll University
- ▶ Mid-Kettle Moraine Partners Group
- ▶ Mukwonago River Watershed Initiative
- ▶ Oconomowoc River Watershed Protection Program
- ▶ Ozaukee Treasures Network
- ▶ Ozaukee-Washington Land Trust
- ▶ Pewaukee River Partnership
- ▶ Riveredge Nature Center
- ▶ Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network
- ▶ Schlitz Audubon Nature Center
- ▶ Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission
- ▶ Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, Inc.
- ▶ Tall Pines Conservancy
- ▶ Ulao Creek Partnership
- ▶ Walworth County Lakes Association
- ▶ Watershed Protection Committee of Racine County
- ▶ Waterway Restoration Partnership (Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern)
- ▶ Wisconsin Association for Floodplain, Stormwater, and Coastal Management
- ▶ UW-Extension Lakes and Wisconsin Association of Lakes
- ▶ Presentations for WDNR Waterways Program Restoration Techniques Training Workshop

Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District

MMSD provides water reclamation and flood management services for about 1.1 million people in 28 communities in the Greater Milwaukee Area. The agency serves 411 square miles that cover all or part of six watersheds. Commission staff participated in several initiatives in 2021 that are integral to or allied with MMSD's efforts, including:

- ▶ Aquatic and riparian habitat enhancement/rehabilitation projects in Lincoln Park
- ▶ Dam management and channel manipulation in the Estabrook/Lincoln/Kletsch Park reach of the Milwaukee River
- ▶ Kinnickinnic River rehabilitation and flood mitigation project tech support
- ▶ Reforestation and Wetland Restoration Project within the Greater Milwaukee watersheds

Annual Fox River Summit

The annual Fox River Summit brings together a wide range of Federal, State, County, community, nonprofit organization, and private sector interests. The Summit gives residents, environmental and conservation groups, businesses, and local governments the ability to discuss issues of concern, share resources, and work toward common goals associated with protecting, restoring, and enhancing natural resources in the Fox River watershed. Commission staff are highly active in this effort and helped the Southeast Fox River Partnership, Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission, and the Fox River Ecosystem Partnership along with UW-Extension Lakes to organize and coordinate an all-virtual 9th Annual Fox River Summit as part of the statewide Wisconsin Water Week Lake and Stream Convention. This annual event helps to bring together watershed organizations in Wisconsin and Illinois for a one-day discussion of common interests and possible opportunities for future cooperation, which has led to significant partnerships, projects, and funding in this part of the Region.



Public Involvement and Outreach

Moving to Hybrid

2021 continued to be a transition year for public involvement and outreach as Commission staff adjusted to a hybrid approach of in-person and virtual meetings and events. As an example, ECOFest 2021 was a hybrid event held in Racine, Kenosha, and Walworth Counties. The in-person component included helping to hand out seeds and gardening supplies at each of the Gateway Technical College campuses and collecting items like TVs and computers to be recycled. The virtual aspect of the event gave SEWRPC the opportunity to participate in its first-ever virtual booth. Staff made brief videos to reflect their work at the Commission and conducted a live, hour-long presentation, including a question-and-answer session for ECOFest attendees.



Community Partners

During 2021, the Public Involvement and Outreach (PIO) Division continued regular contact both in person and virtually with our 75+ primary organizations (see list on facing page) to raise awareness about Commission efforts and opportunities to provide input. Staff also actively worked with these organizations on ways to support their efforts. In addition, PIO continued to deepen relationships with SEWRPC's nine community partners by supporting their events and staying engaged with their members. Some examples of SEWRPC's continued participation included:



- ▶ Self Help Credit Union introduction with Common Ground
- ▶ The Business Council annual luncheon
- ▶ Back to School Fair with Hmong American Friendship Association
- ▶ IndependenceFirst Virtual Brown Bag Series (3 events)
- ▶ Neighborhood beautification with Renew Environmental Public Health Advocates, Inc. (REPHA)
- ▶ Chili Cook-off with Washington Park Partners and REPHA
- ▶ Urban League of Racine and Kenosha Health is Wealth event
- ▶ Regional Food System Plan outreach with all nine community partners
- ▶ North-South Transit Enhancement Study presentation to six organizations



On August 20, SEWRPC's annual community partner meeting was held in a hybrid format, with some joining virtually and others in person at the Global Water Center. SEWRPC staff gave presentations about the North-South Transit Enhancement Study, Regional Chloride Study, Regional Food System Plan, and Environmental Justice Task Force. Staff also discussed efforts to improve and collaborate on future social media engagement. Community partners reciprocated by sharing updates from their respective organizations and discussed opportunities for partners and Commission staff collaborate on future events.

Primary Organizations

Bold text denotes SEWRPC Community Partner

Italicized text signifies operations in multiple counties within Southeastern Wisconsin

Aging and Disability Resource Center

African American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Racine

African American Roundtable

African American Roundtable of Leaders of Racine

Clarke Square Neighborhood Initiative

Common Ground

Eras Senior Network

Ethnic and Diverse Business Coalition

Forward Latino

Harambee Great Neighborhood Initiative

Hispanic Collaborative

Hispanic Roundtable

Hmong American Friendship Association

Independence First

Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County

Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County

Kenosha Achievement Center

Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services

*Kenosha Chapter of the American Association
of University Women*

Kenosha Coalition for Dismantling Racism

Kenosha Community Health Center

Kenosha County Veterans Services

La Casa de Esperanza

Local Initiatives Support Corporation

League of United Latin American Citizens

Milwaukee Urban League

National Alliance on Mental Illness

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Ozaukee Family Services

Racine County Family Resource Network

Racine Kenosha Community Action Agency

Renew Environmental Public Health Advocates, Inc.

*Riverwest Neighborhood Association/
Riverworks Development Corporation*

Root River Environmental Educational Community Center

Sherman Park Community Association

Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers

Social Development Commission

Society's Assets

Southeastern Oneida Tribal Services

Southside Organizing Center

The Threshold, Inc.

United Migrant Opportunity Services

United Way

Urban Ecology Center

Urban Economic Development

Association of Wisconsin

Urban League of Racine and Kenosha

VIA CDC

Visioning a Greater Racine

Walnut Way Conservation Corporation

Walworth County Community Alliance

Washington Park Partners

WATERShed Program

We Got This

Wisconsin Green Muslims

Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation/Mexican Fiesta

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs

Wisconsin Veterans Chamber of Commerce

WISDOM

Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation

YWCA Southeast Wisconsin

Organizations Serving Target Populations

Engaging specific population groups, notably low-income populations, people of color, and people with disabilities or other needs, is a particular focus of the Commission's public participation program. This targeted outreach has four major objectives: Outreach, Public Involvement, Education, and Environmental Justice. As part of these efforts, Commission staff directs engagement to the 75+ primary organizations serving specific population subgroups, which are reviewed each year with the Environmental Justice Task Force. SEWRPC's nine community partners are also included in the primary organizations list.





Environmental Justice Task Force

The primary role of the EJTF is to enhance the consideration and integration of environmental justice throughout the regional planning process. Environmental justice (EJ) refers to the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. EJ populations include people of color, low-income populations, and people with disabilities. The EJTF consists of 15 representatives from throughout the Region who meet regularly to gain an understanding of the Commission's technical work program and to provide input to that program through the lens of environmental justice. The five basic responsibilities of the EJTF are to:

- ▶ Facilitate the involvement of, and help ensure the full and fair participation of, EJ populations at all stages in relevant areas of regional planning
- ▶ Make recommendations on, and help monitor, issues and analyses relevant to the needs and circumstances of EJ populations
- ▶ Help identify potential benefits and adverse effects of regional planning programs and activities with respect to EJ populations
- ▶ Advise and recommend methods to a.) prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits to EJ populations, and/or b.) avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on EJ populations
- ▶ Enhance awareness, understanding, appreciation, support, and implementation of plan recommendations and benefits, with emphasis on the needs of EJ populations

During its four meetings in 2021, the EJTF:

- ▶ Provided input on the draft CEDS, Regional Food System Plan, and WisDOT's engagement plan for the I-94 East-West project
- ▶ Discussed how transportation funding is allocated and impacts social justice
- ▶ Received updates and discussed several transportation-related Commission efforts, including Milwaukee County's North-South Transit Enhancement Study and several workforce transportation initiatives



In addition to the Commission's Annual Report for 2020 and Overall Work Program for 2022, the following publications were published in 2021. Publication types are described at www.sewrpc.org/publicationtypes.

Community Assistance Planning Reports

- No. 262 (2nd Edition) – A Lake Management Plan for Nagawicka Lake, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, December
- No. 293 (2nd Edition) – A Comprehensive Plan Update for the Town of Hartford: 2050, Washington County, Wisconsin, January
- No. 330 – A Restoration Plan for the Oak Creek Watershed, Volumes 1-3, December
- No. 335 – A Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Jackson: 2050, Washington County, Wisconsin, January
- No. 339 – A Comprehensive Plan Update for the City of Cudahy: 2050, April

Memorandum Reports

- No. 123 (3rd Edition) – A Lake Management Plan for Silver Lake, Washington County, Wisconsin, December
- No. 248 – Milwaukee County Coastline Management Guidelines, February
- No. 250 – Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan for Kenosha County: 2021, October
- No. 251 – Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan for Milwaukee County: 2021, October
- No. 252 – Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan for Ozaukee County: 2021, October
- No. 253 – Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan for Racine County: 2021, October
- No. 254 – Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan for Walworth County: 2021, October
- No. 255 – Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan for Washington County: 2021, October
- No. 256 – Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan for Waukesha County: 2021, October
- No. 258 – Upper Oconomowoc River Nutrient and Sediment Study, June

Other Reports

The Commission prepares a number of additional types of reports as needed. These report types include: planning guides, technical records, planning program prospectuses, study designs, regional planning conference proceedings, staff memorandums, public meeting minutes, planning program reports, and lake use reports.

Newsletters

Sign up to receive Regional Planning News and access past issues at www.sewrpc.org/enews.

- Volume 8, Issue 1, March
- Volume 8, Issue 2, June
- Volume 8, Issue 3, September
- Volume 8, Issue 4, December

The Commission prepares an annual work program that is reviewed and approved by Federal and State funding agencies. This work program is then carried out by a core staff of full-time professional, technical, and clerical personnel, supplemented by additional temporary staff and consultants as needed. At the end of 2021, the Commission staff totaled **64**, including **62** full-time and **2** part-time employees.

Executive Leadership

Kevin J. Muhs, PE, AICP, *Executive Director*
Benjamin R. McKay, AICP, *Deputy Director*

Administrative Services

Elizabeth A. Larsen, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, Director of Administration

Alexa J. Carzoli, *Administrative Assistant*
Megan I. Deau, *Senior Graphic Designer*
Carrie M. Pozum, *Accounting Clerk/HR Assistant*
Robert J. Klatkiewicz, *Office Clerk*
Richard J. Wazny, *Print Shop Supervisor*

Environmental Planning

Laura K. Herrick, PE, CFM, Chief Environmental Engineer
Dr. Thomas M. Slawski, Chief Specialist-Biologist

Megan A. Shedivy, *Planner*
Michael A. Borst, *Research Analyst*
Dr. Joseph E. Boxhorn, *Principal Planner*
Dale J. Buser, *Principal Specialist*
Jennifer L. Dietl, *Principal Specialist*
Shane T. Heyel, *Senior Specialist*
Karin M. Hollister, PE, *Principal Engineer*
Christopher J. Jors, *Principal Specialist*
Zachary P. Kron, *Senior Specialist*
Zijia Li, PE, *Engineer*
James M. Mahoney, PE, *Engineer*
Nicklaus J. Neureuther, *Specialist*
Zofia Noe, *Senior Specialist*
Julia C. Orłowski, PE, *Engineer*
Aaron W. Owens, *Senior Planner*
Justin P. Poinsette, *Senior Specialist*

Land Use Planning

Joel E. Dietl, AICP, Chief Land Use Planner

Rochelle M. Brien, AICP, *Senior Planner*
Frank G. Fierek, Jr., *Senior Specialist*
Barry A. Gore, *Principal Planner*
Joyce A. Gramz, *Senior GIS Specialist*
Kendall J. Johnson, *Research Analyst*
Richard R. Kania, AICP, RLA, *Principal Planner*
Robbie L. Robinson, *Senior Planner*
James P. Siegler, *Planner*
Kathryn E. Sobottke, *Principal Specialist*

Public Involvement and Outreach

Nakeisha N. Payne, Public Involvement and Outreach Manager

Montre J. Moore, *Public Involvement and Outreach Specialist*

Special Projects

Eric D. Lynde, Chief Special Projects Planner

Kaleb W. Kutz, *Planner*
John R. Meland, *Principal Specialist*
Christopher Parisey, *Senior Planner*

Surveying and GIS

Robert W. Merry, PLS, Chief Surveyor
Michael G. Gosetti, GIS Manager

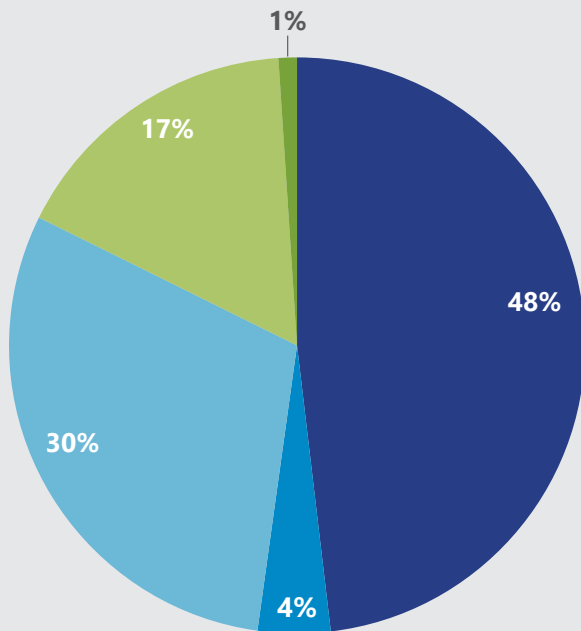
Patricia L. Bouchard, *GIS Specialist*
Justin Kendall, *Systems Administrator*
Timothy R. Gorsegger, *GIS Specialist*
Benjamin O. Johnson, *Land Survey Assistant*
Bradley T. Subotnik, *Senior GIS Specialist*
Megan V. Tornoe, *Land Survey Assistant*
Andrew J. Traeger, *Certified Survey Technician*

Transportation Planning

Christopher T. Hiebert, PE, Chief Transportation Engineer
Ryan W. Hoel, PE, Deputy Chief Transportation Engineer

Dr. Gom B. Ale, Ph.D., *Principal Planner-Modeler*
Elizabeth T. Callin, AICP, *Senior Planner*
Carrie L. Cooper, *Principal Planner*
Joseph M. Delmagori, *Senior Planner*
Victor T. Helin, *Senior Planner*
Ethan S. Johnson, *Senior Planner*
Reginald L. Mason, *Research Analyst*
Gabriel A. Rosenwald, *Engineering Technician*
Xylia N. Rueda, *Senior Planner*
Jennifer B. Sarnecki, AICP, *Principal Planner*
Dr. Hana Takhtfiroozeh, Ph.D., *Engineer*

Basic financial support is provided by a regional tax levy apportioned to each county on the basis of equalized valuation, which is supplemented by Federal and State aids. The regional tax levy for the Commission has not increased since 2007. A financial audit report for 2021 can be viewed at www.sewrpc.org/funding.

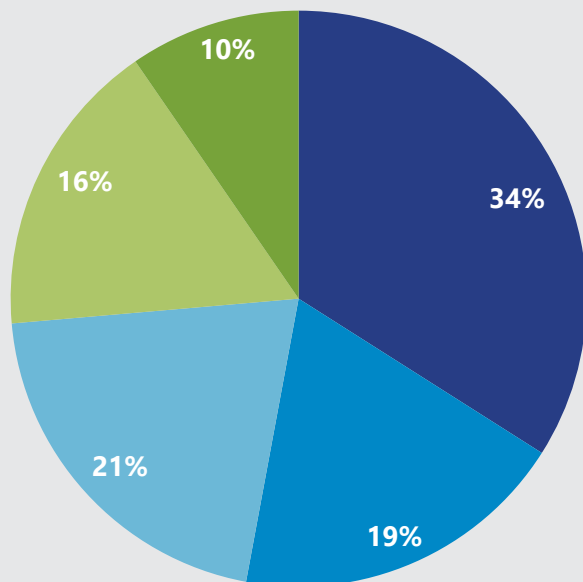


2021 Revenues **\$7,474,366**

- **Federal Government \$3,597,126**
 Federal Highway Administration (47%)
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1%)
- **State Government \$304,149**
 Wisconsin Department of Transportation (35%)
 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (1%)
 Wisconsin Department of Administration (<1%)
- **Local Government Tax Levy \$2,251,735**
- **Service Agreements \$1,244,256**
- **Miscellaneous \$77,100**

2021 Expenditures **\$7,133,969**

- **Transportation Planning \$2,425,395**
- **Land Use Planning \$1,350,155**
- **Environmental Planning \$1,476,950**
- **Local Planning Assistance \$1,197,139**
- **Administration \$684,329**



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