

## Lee, Chris

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**From:** Hacker, Stephanie <shacker@sewrpc.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 4:06 PM  
**To:** Lee, Chris  
**Cc:** McKay, Benjamin R.  
**Subject:** Follow-up Correspondence for ZND re: October 3, 2023

Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development Committee Members,

Good afternoon. We had a lively conversation on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October, during which time you asked that I provide “concrete and specific Milwaukee-centric... answers” to the following question: “Are there going to be any changes under your leadership for [the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission] that will make it better for the City of Milwaukee?”

I thought to provide the enclosed question-and-answer format to begin addressing your inquiry. The questions begin to address what I highlighted from our conversation. They are not exhaustive. I can expand on these and other topics by returning to ZND at any time.

To broadly address your question about leadership: Our leadership team and our Commissioners, together with our Counties and municipal partners, can realize a shared vision for the Region. With you and your peers, we can work to ‘make it better’ for the City of Milwaukee. Collaboration and collective impact are fundamental to my approach as Executive Director of the Commission.

*Are staff at the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission involved in the selection of the 21 Commissioners that guide the agency?*

No. The Commission is guided by §66.0309 (3): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/66/iii/0309>

*How does the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission select “Community Assistance” work?*

For our Community Assistance Program, the Commission primarily derives its work from the request of a local governmental unit. Our aim is to assist the Region where we are relevant to the tasks at hand. City staff can continue to contact Commission staff to discuss potential requests for the Commission to support the City’s needs.

*How can constituents in the Region learn about what the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is doing?*

1. Our Public Involvement & Outreach staff are integral to community conversations across the Region. They meet constituents and community-based organizations where they are, hear the issues, and either put constituents in contact with appropriate Commission staff and / or communicate those issues with Commission staff.
2. Our approach has long been that we’ll meet with any group, large or small, to discuss the Commission’s work.
3. Our website is dated; we are in the process of finalizing and releasing a new website. The new site should greatly aid navigation and help visitors learn about the agency’s work with fewer words and fewer clicks.
4. Starting next year, we intend to develop a Strategy – not a full-blown strategic plan – that will derive a vision, goals, and objectives for the Commission for the subsequent 3 years. As this is currently our intention, the scope for developing this Strategy has not yet been drafted. This Strategy can largely answer “why” we’re doing what we’re doing.
5. To learn what the Commission is currently or soon-to-be working on that impacts the City of Milwaukee, please see the next question.

*What active and upcoming work at the Commission impacts the City of Milwaukee?*

With dozens of active and upcoming “projects” at the Commission that impact the Milwaukee community, we assembled the following summary for ease of review. Generally, the list starts at the regional level, then sub-regional level, and ends at the County / corridor / local level.

- 2024 Review and Update of VISION 2050
- 2020 Regional Land Use Inventory
- 2020 Regional Population/Households/Employment Inventory
- Regional Base Mapping and Corner Monumentation
- Regional Food System Plan
- Regional Housing Plan Implementation Reports
- Regional Orthophotography Quality Control and Administration
- Natural Areas Plan Update
- Transportation Improvement Program
- CommuteWISE Program
- Sanitary Sewer Extension Reviews
- Environmental Justice Task Force
- Public Involvement & Outreach with staff focused on the City of Milwaukee
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy/Economic Development District Application
- EMSI / Lightcast Data Requests
- Workforce Mobility Team
- Coastal Management Technical Services
- Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee Passenger Rail
- Metropolitan Milwaukee Climate Action Plan
- FlexRide Milwaukee support
- Milwaukee County Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Milwaukee County Multi-Modal Arterial Highway System Plan
- Milwaukee County Surveyor Services
- Kohl Park Proposed Oak Leaf Trail Extension (WET/STK)
- CONNECT 1 Corridor TOD Study
- 30<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Bicycle/Pedestrian Study

We look forward to continuing the conversation with the City of Milwaukee.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie



**Stephanie Hacker, AICP, LEED AP** | Executive Director  
[shacker@sewrpc.org](mailto:shacker@sewrpc.org) | 262.547.6721 main  
[sewrpc.org/news](http://sewrpc.org/news)

