

X. Implementation

66.1001(2)(i) Wis. Stats

“A compilation of programs and specific actions to be completed in a stated sequence, including proposed changes to any applicable zoning ordinances, official maps, or subdivision ordinances, official maps, or subdivision ordinances, to implement the objectives, policies, plans and programs contained in pars. (a) to (h). The element shall describe how each of the elements of the comprehensive plan will be integrated and made consistent with the other elements of the comprehensive plan, and shall include a mechanism to measure the local governmental unit’s progress toward achieving all aspects of the comprehensive plan. The element shall include a process for updating the comprehensive plan. A comprehensive plan under this subsection shall be updated no less than once every 10 years.”

10.1 Overview

Of the multiple elements involved in the comprehensive planning process, implementation requires the most attention and has typically been the most problematic for the vast majority of communities. A comprehensive plan is of little use to a community if it is not being implemented.

Implementation is a critical component of Wisconsin’s Smart Growth legislation. All actions of a local government that affect land use must be consistent with its comprehensive plan by January 1, 2010. Completing and adopting a comprehensive plan is an important accomplishment for a community, but once the plan is adopted the planning work must continue. A great deal of effort is needed following plan adoption to bring a municipality’s rules and regulations into compliance with an adopted comprehensive plan.

For the Town of Middleton to fully recognize and utilize its Comprehensive Plan elements, the Town must assign responsibilities and adopt a timeline for implementation. This element provides a roadmap for guiding decisions on future development and includes a list of implementation goals for each element laid out in earlier sections of this Plan.

In 2009, the Town of Middleton Comprehensive Plan was reviewed by the Plan Commission, adopted by the Town Board and forwarded to Dane County for final approval. The Plan was also submitted to the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration. The Town adopted a plan amendment in May 2010, and two additional amendments in July 2011 and August 2011. Dane County approved the Comprehensive Plan August 18, 2011. In 2016, this plan was amended to reflect ACT 178, which allowed Dane County towns the option to withdraw from county zoning. By withdrawing from county zoning this requires Dane County to adopt the Town Comprehensive Plan without change. In addition, withdrawing from the county zoning removes plat and certified survey map approval from Dane County.

This Plan was written to reflect the current goals, objectives and policies of the citizens of the Town of Middleton. While it is unlikely that this Plan’s core goals will change radically, it must be recognized that the passage of time may alter the Plan’s individual objectives and policies. Therefore, amendments may be deemed appropriate in the years following adoption of this Plan. State statutes require that the Comprehensive Plan be updated every ten years. By updating and monitoring the Plan periodically, the Town will have a vehicle to ensure its planning decisions will be relevant now and in the years to come.

10.2 Implementation Schedule

This Implementation Element is intended to establish a process by which the Town will maintain, update and utilize the Comprehensive Plan for the length of the planning horizon. According to state statutes, after 2010 all land-use decisions made by the Town must be consistent with the recommendations of this Plan. In order to achieve this goal, the Town Board, Plan Commission and Parks Commission and all other decision-making bodies should refer to relevant Plan goals, objectives and policies during their decision-making process. Town staff will be responsible for assisting Plan implementation by providing the relevant information to these decision-making bodies. Staff will also assist in the implementation of land-use decisions as well as recommended Plan policies.

Each element of the Plan will be reviewed and updated on a rotating five-year basis as established in the following schedule. **Each year, an item will be placed on the January Plan Commission agenda to review the Comprehensive Plan elements as called for in Table 10.1.**

Table 10-1: Implementation Schedule

Review Timeline	Responsible Party	Goal Description
General Administration		
N/A	Town Staff	Send a copy of the adopted Plan to the Wisconsin Land Council and to local units of government as required by 66.1001(4)(c), Wis. Stats.
N/A	Town Staff	Send a copy of the adopted Plan to the Madison and Middleton Public Libraries as required by 66.1001(4)(b), Wis. Stats.
Yearly	Town Board, Plan Commission and Town Staff	Review land development regulations to ensure that they are consistent with the adopted Plan and make revisions as necessary.

Review Timeline	Responsible Party	Goal Description
Housing		
2012, 2017, 2022, 2027	Town Board, Plan Commission and Town Staff	Provide safe and code-compliant housing consistent with the semi-rural character of the community.

Review Timeline	Responsible Party	Goal Description
Transportation		
2012, 2017, 2022, 2027	Town Board, Plan Commission and Town Staff	The transportation network will be well planned, properly maintained and affordable. It will provide multiple options for safe and efficient access and travel within, to and from the Town. Transportation improvements and additions will be compatible with the semi-rural character of the Town, support growth plans, consider interconnectivity within and across Town borders, and enhance the quality of Town life, but will not unnecessarily impact private property or the environment.

Review Timeline	Responsible Party	Goal Description
Utilities and Community Facilities		
2013, 2018, 2023, 2028	Town Board and Town Staff	Promote a cost effective-system of utilities and services to meet the current and future needs of Town residents.
2013, 2018, 2023, 2028	Town Board and Parks Commission	Develop and maintain a system of outdoor recreation facilities to meet the current and future needs of Town residents.
2013, 2018, 2023, 2028	Town Board and Town Staff	Cooperate with local, county, state and federal governments and agencies to ensure the safety and general welfare of Town residents.

Review Timeline	Responsible Party	Goal Description
Agriculture and Natural Resources		
2013, 2018, 2023, 2028	Town Board, Plan Commission and Town Staff	Protect the Town’s natural resources and environmentally sensitive lands from incompatible uses and/or development.
2013, 2018, 2023, 2028	Town Board and Plan Commission	Preserve the semi-rural identity of the Town and enable the continuation of agricultural activities within the Town where feasible.
2013, 2018, 2023, 2028	Town Board and Plan Commission	Preserve the Town’s historic and archaeological resources.

Review Timeline	Responsible Party	Goal Description
Economic Development		
2014, 2019, 2024, 2029	Town Staff	Maintain communications with existing businesses.
2014, 2019, 2024, 2029	Town Board and Town Staff	Consider economic development in all future planning decisions.
2014, 2019, 2024, 2029	Town Staff	Maintain contact with neighboring municipalities to stay appraised of their business development plans for areas adjacent to the Town of Middleton.
2014, 2019, 2024, 2029	Town Board	Continue to consider the improvement and expansion of infrastructure that will enhance the value of the Town for both residents and the business community.
2014, 2019, 2024, 2029	Town Board and Plan Commission	Evaluate the use of brownfields and other contaminated sites for redevelopment.
2014, 2019, 2024, 2029	Town Board and Town Staff	Evaluate the impact of the business community on transportation issues.
2014, 2019, 2024, 2029	Town Board	Create, maintain and regularly update Town ordinances relating to economic development.

Review Timeline	Responsible Party	Goal Description
Intergovernmental Cooperation		
2015, 2020, 2025, 2030	Town Board and Town Staff	Enhance Intergovernmental Cooperation
2015, 2020, 2025, 2030	Town Board, Plan Commission and Town Staff	Encourage Citizen Participation

Review Timeline	Responsible Party	Goal Description
Land Use		
2015, 2020, 2025, 2030	Town Board and Plan Commission	Promote a pattern of development that fosters the preservation of the quality of life and the semi-rural character of the Town of Middleton.
2015, 2020, 2025, 2030	Town Board and Plan Commission	Promote a pattern of development that minimizes potential conflicts between incompatible land uses.
2015, 2020, 2025, 2030	Town Board, Plan Commission and Town Staff	Protect and maintain environmentally sensitive areas in their natural state when making land-use decisions.

10.3 Plan Implementation Monitoring and Amendment

This Plan was prepared over a twenty-six month period and was adopted as a single document to guide future decision-making. Prior to adoption, each of the elements was reviewed to ensure internal consistency.

It is the intention of the Town that elements of this Plan be reviewed and updated according to the schedule outlined in Table 10-1. The implementation schedule will help ensure that each element’s goals and implementation items are being addressed. Some of the implementation items are ongoing and will not see a completion date. In future years, it will be important to ensure that the Plan remains internally consistent as amendments are made.

To help ensure its goals, objectives and policies are considered in Town actions, it is recommended that the Town conduct a review each year of the Comprehensive Plan’s elements. The Plan Commission will be tasked with reviewing and updating pertinent elements. The Commission will then forward these elements to the Town Board for review and acceptance.

10.4 Plan Funding

Some of this Plan’s implementation items are quite simple to accomplish and will require minimal resources, while others are more complex. The complicated items will entail more time and, consequently, could benefit from the aid of outside resources. The following table has been prepared as a starting point for the Town to locate and identify potential additional resources. Each of the Wisconsin agencies listed below provides public funding assistance to jurisdictions. Additional information regarding potential funding sources may be found in several of the appendices to this Plan. The Town should examine these sources as it seeks to implement many of the goals of this Comprehensive Plan.

Table 10.2: Wisconsin and Federal Public Funding Assistance

Agency	Web Site	Project Types
Department of Transportation (WDOT)	http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/	Roads, bridges and general transportation
Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)	http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/	Land, water, air and general environment
Department of Commerce (WDOC)	http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), business and community development
Department of Tourism (WDOT)	http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/	Advertising, marketing and promotion
Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA)	http://www.wheda.com/	Housing
Forward Wisconsin	http://www.forwardwi.com/	Business and labor
Wisconsin Emergency Management	http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov/	Disaster planning and recovery
Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA)	http://www.doa.state.wi.us/	Comprehensive planning, housing, coastal management and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
U.S. Department of Agriculture	http://www.usda.gov	Stream and other natural resource protection, Rural and community development