

TOWN OF RIDGEWAY, WISCONSIN

Comprehensive Plan

Town of Ridgeway Board

Robert Thomas, Chairman
Tom McGraw, Supervisor
Rich Strutt, Supervisor
Marian Strutt, Clerk

Town of Ridgeway Plan Commission

Thomas L. Strutt, Chair
Miles Narveson
Richard Hibma
Jim Johnson
Todd Sawle

Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Staff

Edward Bible, Economic Development Planner
Andrew Bremer, Associate Planner/GIS Manager
Glenda Dye, Office Manager/Bookkeeper
Joni H. Graves, Transportation Planner
Amy Knox, Project Manager
Ron Niemann, Project Manager
Mary Jenkins Penn, Local Assistance Planner
Joyel Rounds, Administrative Assistant
Lawrence T. Ward, Executive Director
Darlene Wilson, Cartographer

Planning Report No. 05/158

January 5, 2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Section A: Issues and Opportunities	
Executive Summary.....	A-1
Issues and Opportunities Policies	A-2
Background.....	A-2
Community Involvement	A-2
Demographic Trends.....	A-4
Demographic Projections	A-6
Section B: Housing	
Executive Summary	B-1
Housing Policies	B-2
Town of Ridgeway Housing Impact Concerns	B-3
Housing Characteristics	B-3
Housing Affordability.....	B-5
Housing Agencies & Programs.....	B-7
Section C: Transportation	
Executive Summary.....	C-1
Transportation Policies	C-2
Town of Ridgeway	C-2
Transportation Infrastructure and Issues	C-3
Local Economic Development	C-4
Environment	C-4
Aesthetics	C-5
Transit, Accessibility, and Special Needs Users	C-5
Priorities & Future Projects – Transit	C-5
Land Use	C-5
Enhancing & Improving Connectivity	C-7
Efficiency & Safety	C-7
Maintenance & Improvements	C-8
Cost	C-8
Future Projects & Priorities – Cost	C-8
Section D: Utility and Community Facilities	
Executive Summary	D-1
Utility and Community Facility Policies	D-2
Public Utilities	D-2
Community Facilities	D-3
Utility and Community Facility Agencies and Programs	D-4
Section E: Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources	
Executive Summary	E-1
Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Policies	E-2
Agricultural Resources	E-3
Farmland Potential	E-4
Land Cover	E-4
Natural Resources	E-4
Parks and Open Space	E-9
Cultural and Historic Resources	E-9
Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resource Agencies and Programs	E-13
Section F: Economic Development	
Executive Summary	F-1
Introduction	F-2
Economic Development Policies	F-4
Establishing Priorities	F-4

Section F: Economic Development (continued)

Financing opportunities for businesses, and for organizations that provide assistance to business F-5

Section G: Intergovernmental Cooperation

Executive Summary G-1
Intergovernmental Cooperation Policies G-2
Intergovernmental Relationships G-2
Existing Area of Cooperation G-2
Intergovernmental Conflicts G-2
Other Intergovernmental Concerns G-2
Possible Future Cooperation Efforts G-2
Communication with Neighbors G-2
Formal Agreements with Neighboring Jurisdictions G-3
Advantage of Local Intergovernmental Cooperation G-3
Disadvantage of Local Intergovernmental Cooperation G-3
Steps to Beginning Successful Intergovernmental Cooperation Efforts G-4
Wisconsin Department of Housing and Intergovernmental Relations-Municipal Boundary Review (DHIR-MBR) G-6

Section H: Land Use

Executive Summary H-1
Land Use Policies H-2
Existing Land Use H-5
Redevelopment Opportunities H-7
Existence of Properties with Contaminated Soil or Groundwater H-7
Existing and Potential Land Use Conflicts H-8
Integrated Land Use H-8
Future Land Use H-8

Section I: Implementation

Executive Summary I-1
Implementation Policies I-2
Consistency Among Plan Elements I-2
Plan Adoption I-2
Local Ordinances and Regulations I-2
Plan Amendments I-2
Plan Updates I-2
Rural Residential Siting Criteria I-3
Commercial Siting Criteria I-4
Implementation Measures I-5

APPENDIX

Appendix A: Issues and Opportunities	
Survey	Appendix A-1
Appendix B: Housing	
None	
Appendix C: Transportation	
Local Roads Improvement Program.....	Appendix C-6
Appendix D: Utility and Community Facilities	
None	
Appendix E: Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources	
Natural Communities.....	Appendix E-1
Threatened and Endangered Species	Appendix E-2
Appendix F: Economic Development	
None	
Appendix G: Intergovernmental Cooperation	
None	
Appendix H: Land Use	
None	
Appendix I: Implementation	
None	

LIST OF FIGURES

Section A Issues and Opportunities		
A.1	Town of Ridgeway Population Changes	A-4
A.2	Percent Population Comparison – 2000 Census Data	A-5
A.3	Percent Population Comparison – 2010 Census Data	A-5
Section B Housing		
B.1	Town of Ridgeway Total Housing Units Changes	B-3
B.2	Town of Ridgeway – Total Households by Category	B-4
B.3	Town of Ridgeway Housing Unit Type	B-4
B.4	Town of Ridgeway Year Structure Built	B-5
B.5	Town of Ridgeway Value of Specified Owner-Occupied Units	B-6
B.6	Town of Ridgeway Monthly Owner Costs: Percent of 1999 Household Income	B-6
Section C Transportation		
<i>No Figures for this Section</i>		
Section D Utility and Community Facilities		
<i>No Figures for this Section</i>		
Section E Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources		
<i>No Figures for this Section</i>		
Section F Economic Development		
<i>No Figures for this Section</i>		
Section G Intergovernmental Cooperation		
<i>No Figures for this Section</i>		
Section H Land Use		
<i>No Figures for this Section</i>		
Section I Implementation		
<i>No Figures for this Section</i>		

LIST OF MAPS

Section A Issues and Opportunities

No Maps for this Section

Section B Housing

No Maps for this Section

Section C Transportation

- C.1 Major Travel Routes in Southwestern Wisconsin 1835-1870
- C.3 U.S. & State Highways and County Highways – Iowa County
- C.4 Iowa County Rural Functional Highway Systems

Section D Utility and Community Facilities

- D.1 Utilities and Facilities – Town of Ridgeway

Section E Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources

- E.1 Ridgeway Soil Classifications
- E.2 Town of Ridgeway Land Cover
- E.3 Surface Water Resources
- E.4 Iowa County River Basins and Watersheds
- E.5 FEMA Floodplain
- E.6 Town of Ridgeway Depth to Water Table
- E.7a Threatened & Endangered Aquatic & Terrestrial Species and/or Natural Communities
- E.7b Threatened & Endangered Plants and Natural Communities
- E.8 Natural Resources and Environmental Corridors – Ridgeway Township
- E.9 Ridgeway Slope Limitations
- E.10 Ridgeway Septic Limitations
- E.11 Ridgeway Depth to Bedrock
- E.12 Mines and Quarries
- E.13 Iowa County Recreational Trails and Parks
- E.14 Rural School and Historic Locations
- E.15 Cemetery and Church Locations – Town of Ridgeway

Section F Economic Development

No Maps for this Section

Section G Intergovernmental Cooperation

No Maps for this Section

Section H Land Use

- H.1 Land Use – Town of Ridgeway
- H.2 Commercial and Manufacturing Locations

Section I Implementation

No Maps for this Section

**If Sections have Maps, they are located at the end of the Section*

LIST OF TABLES

Section A Issues and Opportunities Element		
<i>No Tables in Section A</i>		
Section B Housing Element		
B.1	Comparison of Owner Occupied Median Home Values – 1990 & 2000	B-5
B.2	Comparison of Renter Occupied Median Rent Paid – 1990 & 2000	B-5
B.5	Town of Ridgeway Value of Specified Owner Occupied Units	B-6
B.6	Town of Ridgeway Monthly Owner Costs	B-6
Transportation Element		
C.2	State of WI – DOT – Information System for Local Roads	C-10
Section D Utility and Community Facilities Element		
<i>No Tables in Section D</i>		
Section E Agricultural, Cultural, and Natural Resources Element		
E.1	National Register of Historic Places	E-9
E.2	Cultural Resources Most Important To You Community	E-10
E.3	Archeological Sites In Your Community	E-12
E.4	Cultural Resource Contacts In the Town of Ridgeway	E-12
Section F Economic Development Element		
<i>No Tables in Section F</i>		
Section G Intergovernmental Cooperation Element		
<i>No Tables in Section G</i>		
Section H Land Use Element		
H.1	Town of Ridgeway Land Use	H-6
Section I Implementation Element		
I.1	Rural Residential Siting Criteria	I-3
I.2	Commercial Siting Criteria	I-4
I.3	Issues and Opportunities	I-5
I.4	Housing	I-5
I.5	Transportation	I-6
I.6	Utilities and Community Facilities	I-6
I.7	Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources	I-7
I.8	Economic Development	I-7
I.9	Intergovernmental Cooperation	I-8
I.10	Land Use	I-9
I.11	Implementation Policies	I-12

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this section is to provide basic background information for the comprehensive planning process and general population and demographic characteristics for the Town of Ridgeway. More specifically this section includes information from the community survey and visioning sessions, demographic trends including population trends, age distribution, housing trends, education levels, income levels, employment characteristics, population projections, housing projections, and labor force projections.

**Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(a)**

(a) Issues and opportunities element. Background information on the local governmental unit and a statement of overall objectives, policies, goals and programs of the local governmental unit to guide the future development and redevelopment of the local governmental unit over a 20-year planning period. Background information shall include population, household and employment forecasts that the local governmental unit uses in developing its comprehensive plan, and demographic trends, age distribution, educational levels, income levels and employment characteristics that exist within the local governmental unit.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES POLICIES

The following are the issues and opportunities policies for the Town of Ridgeway. The essence of these recommendations is carried out throughout the entire document.

- **Protect and improve the health, safety, and welfare of residents in the Town of Ridgeway.**
- **Preserve and enhance the quality of life for the residents of the Town of Ridgeway.**
- **Protect and preserve the rural character of the Town of Ridgeway.**

Note: The above policy recommendations are further explained in other elements of this comprehensive plan. This section provides background information and overall direction. For example, the above recommendations may be carried out by implementing recommendations in other sections such as housing, economic development, and transportation.

BACKGROUND

Iowa County, together with twenty-two jurisdictions, including the Town of Ridgeway, applied for a Comprehensive Planning Grant through the Wisconsin Department of Administration in the fall of 2001. In the spring of 2002, the Comprehensive Planning Grant was awarded. Iowa County and the jurisdictions within it contracted with the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC) to complete individual comprehensive plans for each of the twenty-three participating jurisdictions (Iowa County, cities, towns, and villages) in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes 66.1001.

Because of the large number of involved jurisdictions and in an effort to streamline planning meetings, individual jurisdictions were grouped into “clusters”, based on their physical proximity to one another, resulting in six cluster groups. Iowa County was a separate cluster.

- “Northwest Cluster” (Towns of Highland and Pulaski, Villages of Avoca and Highland)
- “Northeast Cluster” (Towns of Arena, Clyde, and Wyoming, and the Village of Arena)
- “Central Cluster” (Towns of Dodgeville and Ridgeway, Village of Ridgeway, and City of Dodgeville)
- “Southwest Cluster” (Towns of Eden, Linden and Mifflin, and Village of Linden)
- “South Central Cluster” (Towns of Mineral Point and Waldwick, and City of Mineral Point)
- “Southeast Cluster” (Town of Moscow, and Villages of Blanchardville and Hollandale)
- Iowa County

In 2017 and 2018, the Ridgeway Township Land Use Commission revised this Comprehensive Plan and updates are incorporated.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

COMMUNITY SURVEY

In September and October of 2002, the staff from SWWRPC and University of Wisconsin Extension Service-Iowa County (UWEX-Iowa County) developed a countywide survey that was distributed to all property owners in Iowa County. A total of 10,752 surveys were sent out, 281 to Town of Ridgeway property owners. Ninety-three surveys were sent back, giving the Town a 33 percent return rate. (See Appendix A-1 for complete survey results.)

A new survey was conducted for the Town of Ridgeway in 2016. Updates are based on the results from that survey and the open meetings held. Our Vision Statement has not changed. Three hundred and forty-two (342) surveys were sent out to Town of Ridgeway residents and property owners. One hundred and fourteen (114) surveys were returned. (See Appendix A-1 for complete survey results.)

COMMUNITY VISION

A vision statement identifies where the Town of Ridgeway intends to be in the future and how to best meet the future needs of its stakeholders: citizens. The vision statement incorporates a shared understanding of the nature and purpose of the organization and uses this understanding to move towards a greater purpose together. SWWRPC, in conjunction with UWEX-Iowa County, sponsored visioning sessions for each cluster in the autumn and winter of 2002-2003. The Town of Ridgeway's planning commission utilized the visioning information from these sessions to create a formal vision statement. The vision statement by the Town of Ridgeway is:

Preserve the family farm/rural heritage flavor by protecting productive agricultural land and scenic vistas, and yet provide for growth of the community by recognizing the needs and potential of all age and diverse groups within the community.

VISIONING

In 2016, the Town of Ridgeway planning representatives were to identify issues, opportunities, strengths, and weaknesses specific to the Town of Ridgeway. The following lists are based on the township survey, public hearings, citizen input and local Plan Commission meetings.

Issues:

- Land use in the Ridgeway/Hwy 18/151 interchange area
- High taxes
- Preserving and protecting wildlife habitat and natural resources
- Lack of Wi-Fi, high speed internet and cable access
- Preserving farmland, scenic views and rural character
- Employment opportunities

Opportunities:

- Planning and development around highway interchange(s)
- Continue to formulate, plan, and educate public
- Continue awareness of employment needs in land use plan
- Promote tourism and recreational activities
- Promote expanded access to high speed internet
- Promote a sense of community

Strengths:

- Having a working and functioning Land Use Commission
- Town rural atmosphere
- Good outdoor recreation possibilities
- Commitment to preserve the rural character
- Stable population
- Good road service

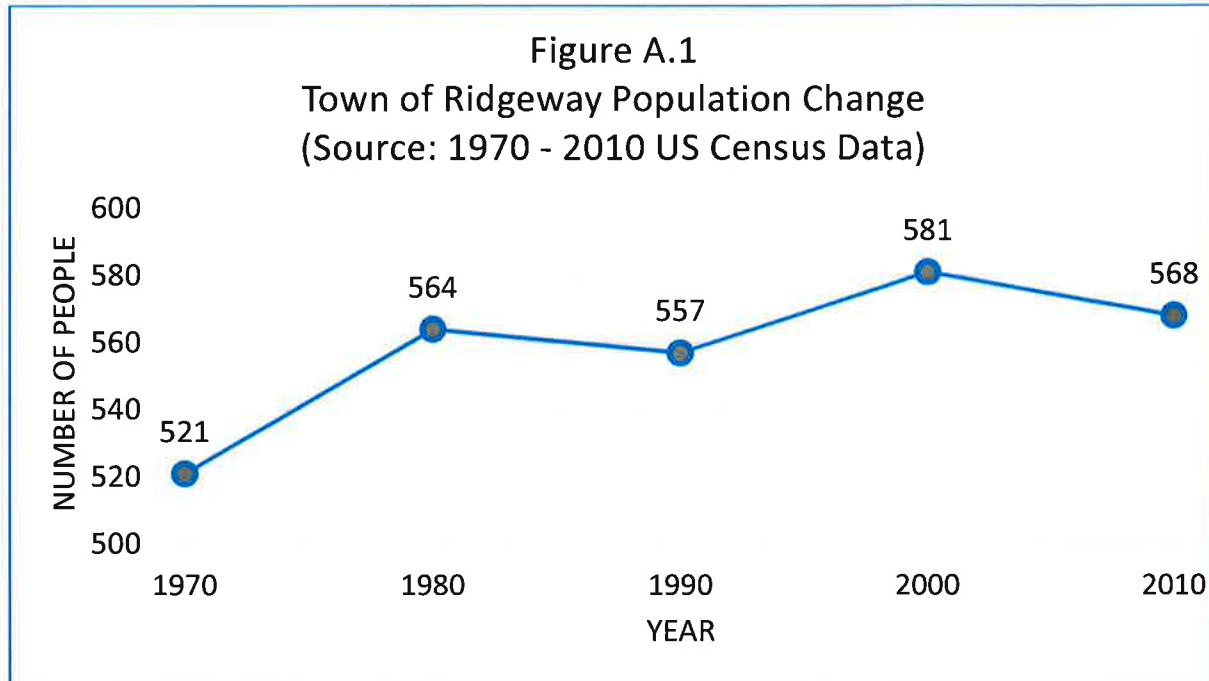
Weaknesses:

- Discontent over taxes
- Lack of local employment opportunities
- Potential loss of school
- Lack of affordable housing

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

POPULATION CHANGES

The Town of Ridgeway's population has increased by forty-seven people over the past 40 years. Between 1970 and 1980, the Town grew by 8 percent. Between 1980 and 1990, it lost 1 percent. Between 1990 and 2000, the Town grew by 4 percent. Between 2000 and 2010, it lost 2 percent.

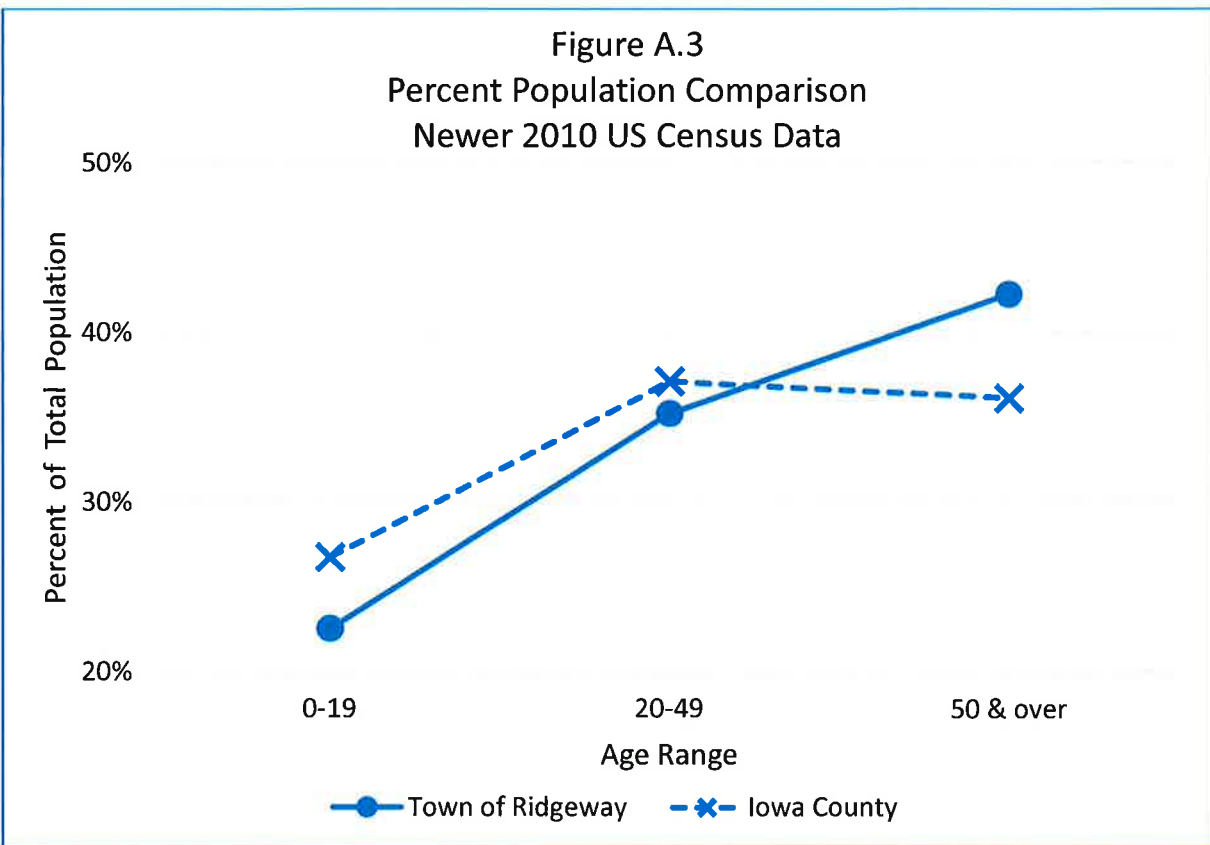
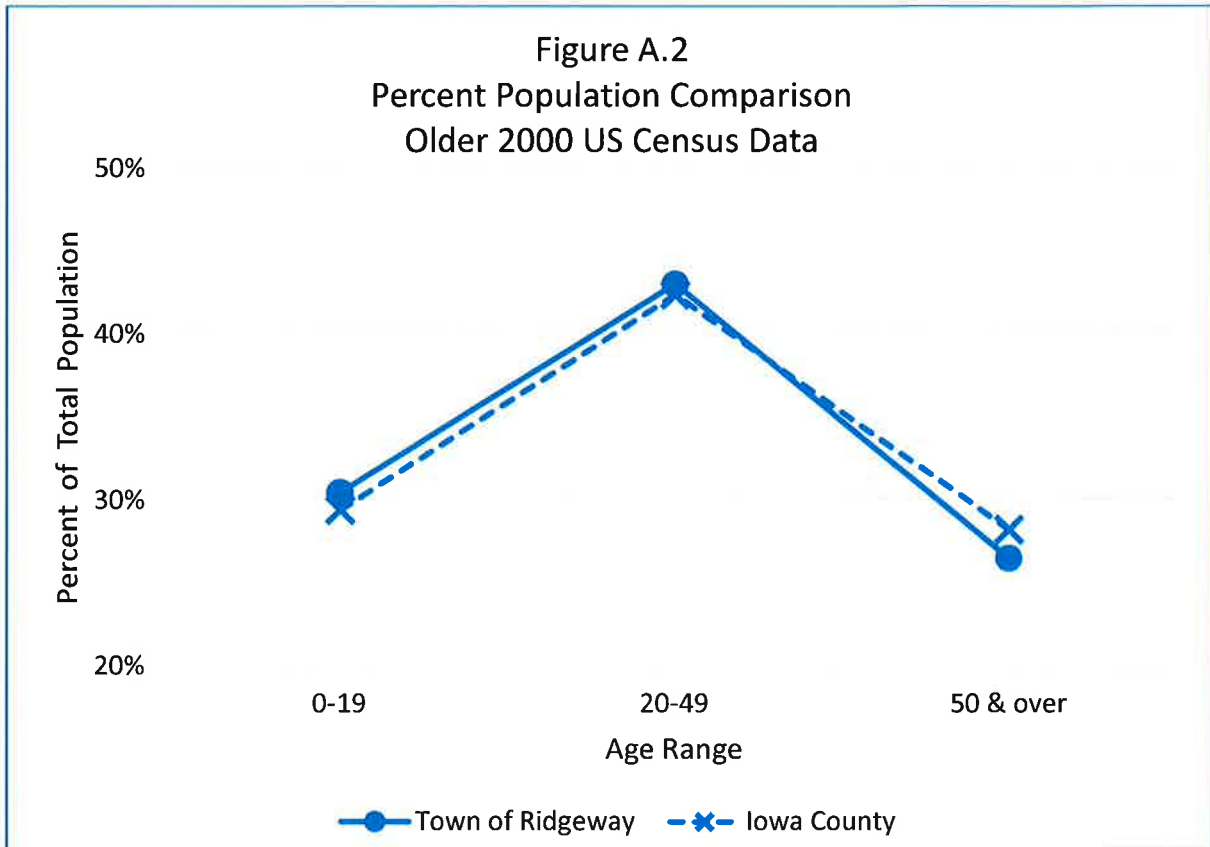


AGE DISTRIBUTION

Figures A.2 and A.3 show the age distribution of Town of Ridgeway and Iowa County residents, using 2000 and 2010 US Census data.

According to the most recent US Census Bureau data, the Town of Ridgeway population has *increased significantly* in age between 2000 and 2010. The portion of Township residents age 50 or older *increased* from 27% to 42% of the total population. Over the same 10-year period, the portion of residents under the age of 20 *decreased* from 30% to 23%.

In 2000, the Township population closely resembled the Iowa County population profile, but changes in the County age profile have occurred at a much slower rate. Between 2000 and 2010, the portion of County residents age 50 or older *increased* from 28% to 36% of the total population. Over the same 10-year period, the portion of residents under the age of 20 *decreased* from 29% to 27%.



DEMOGRAPHIC PROJECTIONS**POPULATION**

Preparing population projections is necessary to provide planners, developers, and others with expected increases or decreases in given base years. Reliable projections of population are needed for all kinds of planning or policy decisions whether involving the need for extending utilities, building a new highway, or starting a business. All these require some notion of probable demand for such facilities.

Iowa County

AQUATIC OCCURRENCES

Animal

Elktoe *Alasmidonta marginata* 1988
 Goldeneye *Hiodon alosoides* 1977
 Buckhorn *Tritogonia verrucosa* 1997
 Bullfrog *Rana catesbeiana* 1994
 Bullhead *Plethobasus cyphus* 1988
 Butterfly *Ellipsaria lineolata* 1997
 Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* 1992
 Monkeyface *Quadrula metanevra* 1988
 Mud Darter *Etheostoma asprigene* 1980
 Mussel Bed *Mussel bed* 1988
 Paddlefish *Polyodon spathula* 1992
 Shoal Chub *Macrhybopsis aestivalis* 1994
 Blue Sucker *Cycoreus elongatus* 1995
 Ebony Shell *Fusconata ebena* 1988
 Silver Chub *Macrhybopsis storeriana* 1993
 Weed Shiner *Notropis texanus* 1980
 Wood Turtle *Clemmys insculpta* 1956
 American Eel *Anguilla rostrata* 1977
 Dion Skipper *Euphyes dion* 1977
 Flat Floater *Anodonta suborbiculata* 1988
 Higgins' Eye *Lampsilis higginsii* 1988
 Least Darter *Etheostoma microperca* 1958
 Ozark Minnow *Notropis nubilis* 1927
 Pirato Perch *Aphredoderus sayanus* 1985
 Redside Dace *Clinostomus elongatus* 1972
 Round Pigtoe *Pleurobema sintoxia* 1997
 Black Buffalo *Ictiobus niger* 1962
 Pugnose Minnow *Opsopoeodus emiliae* 1965
 Slender Madtom *Noturus exilis* 1976
 Lake Chubsucker *Erimyzon sucetta* 1992
 Plains Clubtail *Gomphurus externus* 1997
 Rock Pocketbook *Aroidens contragostus* 1997
 Smoky Shadowfly *Neurocordulia modesta* 1993
 Elusive Clubtail *Stylurus notatus* 1992
 Greater Redhorse *Moxostoma valenciennesi* 1957
 Blanding's Turtle *Emydoidea blandingii* 2001
 Salamander Mussel *Simpsonia ambigua* 1997
 Starhead Topminnow *Fundulus dispar* 1992
 Western Sand Darter *Etheostoma cianum* 1994
 Knobell's Riffle Beetle *Stenelmis knobell*
 Blanchard's Cricket Frog *Acris crepitans blanchardi* 2000
 Wallace's Deepwater Mayfly *Anepurus simplex* 1976
 Yellow & Slough Sandshells *Lampsilis teres* 1988
 Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake *Sistrurus catenatus catenatus* 1871

Plants

Bog Fern *Thelypteris simulata* 2000
 Sycamore *Platanus occidentalis* 1985
 Glade Mallow *Napaea dioica* 1998
 Whip Nuts *Scleria triglomerata* 1974
 Pink Milkwort *Polygala incarnata* 1929
 Grassleaf Rush *Juncus marginatus* 1922
 Yellow Screwstem *Bartonia virginica* 1924
 Crossleaf Milkwort *Polygala cruciata* 1927
 Schweinitz's Sedge *Carex schweinitzii* 1965
 Small Forget-me-not *Myosotis laxa* 1975
 Smooth-sheath Sedge *Carex laevivaginata* 1932
 Engelmann Spike-rush *Eleocharis engelmannii* 1922
 Showy Lady's-slipper *Cypripedium reginae* 1950
 Virginia Meadow-beauty *Rhexia virginica* 1967
 Slim-stem Small-reedgrass *Calamagrostis stricta* 1937
 Small White Lady's-slipper *Cypripedium candidum* 1999

Natural Communities

Shrub-carr *Shrub-carr* 1976
 Lake-Oxbow Lake-oxbow 1976
 Emergent Marsh *Emergent marsh* 1976
 Ephemeral Pond *Ephemeral pond* 1976
 Floodplain Forest *Floodplain forest* 1988
 Wet-mesic Prairie *Wet-mesic prairie* 1987
 Southern Sedge Meadow *Southern sedge meadow* 1976
 Stream-Fast, Hard, Cold *Stream-fast, hard, cold* 1976

TERRESTRIAL OCCURRENCES

Animal

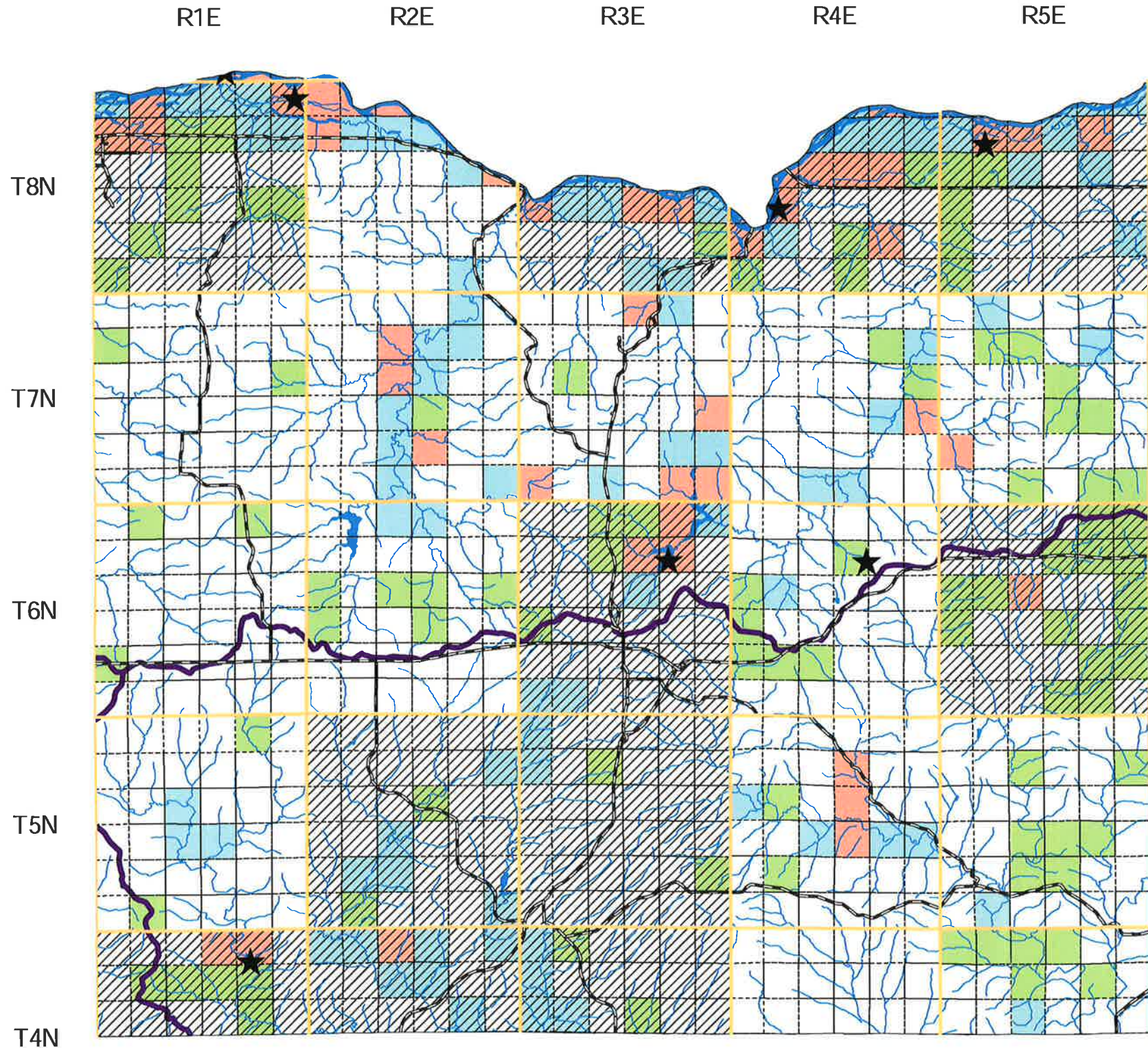
Barn Owl *Tyto alba* 1982
 A Leafhopper *Attenipygga vanduzeei* 1997
 Bell's Vireo *Vireo bellii* 2003
 Black Rat Snake *Eliopis obsoleta* 1974
 Northern Myotis *Myotis septentrionalis* 1997
 Bat *Hibernaculum* *Bat hibernaculum* 1997
 Regal Frillary *Speyeria idalia* 2003
 Upland Sandpiper *Bartramia longicauda* 2001
 Henslow's Sparrow *Ammodramus henslowii* 1996
 Leonard's Skipper *Hesperia leonardus leonardus* 1996
 Loggerhead Shrike *Lanius ludovicianus* 1992
 Ornate Box Turtle *Terrapene ornata* 1985
 Acadian Flycatcher *Empidonax virescens* 1992
 Timber Rattlesnake *Crotalus horridus* 2003
 Western Meadowlark *Stumella neglecta* 1998
 Eastern Pipitrelle *Pipitrellus subflavus* 1997
 Grasshopper Sparrow *Ammodramus savannarum* 1996
 Gorgone Checker Spot *Chlosyne gorgone* 1989
 Net-veined Leafhopper *Polyamia dilata* 1998
 Wild Indigo Dusky Wing *Erynnis baptisiae* 1989
 Red-tailed Prairie Leafhopper *Alexia rubranura* 2003

Plants

Twinleaf *Jeffersonia diphylla* 1991
 Fire Pink *Silene virginica* 2001
 Beak Grass *Diarrhena obovata* 2001
 Buttonweed *Diodia teres* var. *teres* 2002
 Marbleseed *Onosmodium molle* 2002
 Hooker Orchis *Platanthera hookeri* 1938
 Snowy Campion *Silene nivea* 1994
 Wild Hyacinth *Camassia scilloides* 1995
 Cluster Fescue *Festuca paradoxa* 1941
 Hill's Thistle *Cirsium hillii* 2002
 Maryland Senna *Senna marilandica* 1883
 Prairie Turnip *Pedicularis esculentum* 2000
 Upland Boneset *Eupatorium sessilifolium* var. *brittonianum* 2001
 Yellow Gentian *Gentiana alba* 2001
 Nodding Pogonia *Triphora trianthophora* 1973
 Prairie Parsley *Polytaenia nuttallii* 1927
 Purple Clematis *Clematis occidentalis* 1901
 Purple Milkweed *Asclepias purpurascens* 2001
 Woolly Milkweed *Asclepias lanuginosa* 1999
 Lobed Spleenwort *Asplenium pinnatifidum* 1992
 Richardson Sedge *Carex richardsonii* 1996
 American Gromwell *Lithospermum latifolium* 2002
 Autumn Coral-root *Corallorhiza odonorrhiza* 1947
 Pale Green Orchid *Platanthera flava* var. *herbiola* 2000
 American Fever-few *Parthenium integrifolium* 2001
 Roundstem Foxglove *Agalinis gattingeri* 1974
 Short's Rock-cross *Arabis shortii* 2001
 Violet Bush-clover *Lespedeza violacea* 1961
 Wilcox Panic Grass *Panicum wilcoxianum* 1940
 Clustered Broomrape *Orobanche fasciculata* 1860
 Pale False Foxglove *Agalinis skinneriana* 2001
 Prairie Bush-clover *Lespedeza leptostachya* 2003
 Great Indian-plantain *Cacalia muhlenbergii* 2002
 Heart-leaved Skullcap *Scutellaria ovata* 2001
 Clustered Poppy-mallow *Callirhoe triangulata* 1976
 One-flowered Broomrape *Orobanche uniflora* 1999
 Prairie False-dandelion *Nothocalais cuspidata* 1942
 Prairie Indian Plantain *Cacalia tuberosa* 2000
 Yellow Evening Primrose *Calyptophorus serrulatus* 1968
 Nodding Rattlesnake-root *Prenanthes crepidinea* 2002
 Three-flower Melic Grass *Melica nilens* 1959
 Small-flowered Woolly Bean *Strophostyles leiosperma* 1971
 Sweet-scented Indian-plantain *Cacalia suaveolens* 1931

Natural Communities

Dry Cliff *Dry cliff* 1976
 Dry Prairie *Dry prairie* 2001
 Moist Cliff *Moist cliff* 1976
 Oak Opening *Oak opening* 1986
 Pine Relict *Pine relict* 1985
 Pine Barrens *Pine barrens* 1976
 Sand Barrens *Sand barrens* 2002
 Sand Prairie *Sand prairie* 1997
 Mesic Prairie *Mesic prairie* 1996
 Hemlock Relict *Hemlock relict* 2000
 Dry-mesic Prairie *Dry-mesic prairie* 1987
 Southern Mesic Forest *Southern mesic forest* 1976
 Southern Dry-mesic Forest *Southern dry-mesic forest* 1992



MAP 7a
THREATENED AND ENDANGERED (T & E)
Aquatic & Terrestrial Species
And/or Natural Communities



This map represents the known occurrences of rare species and natural communities that have been recorded in the Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI). Colored sections indicate the presence of one or more occurrences within that section. Hatched townships indicate one or more occurrences reported only at the township level. The date following the names above notes the most recent year the occurrence was recorded in the county.

Map generated using NHI data from: 06/14/2004
 Copyright 2003, WDNR-Bureau of Endangered Resources
 This map may not be reproduced without prior written permission.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Housing is a basic necessity of life and an important part of the comprehensive planning process. Obtaining suitable, spacious, and affordable housing is often difficult for many residents. Housing is generally considered affordable when housing costs do not exceed 30 percent of household income. Integrating single and multi-family housing units into new developments can support a more diverse population. The addition of units or conversion of larger homes to duplexes or apartments can be a way to increase the supply of multi-family housing without dramatically changing the landscape. This section examines the existing housing stock. Included in the housing stock is the total units, age characteristics of the existing housing supply, occupancy rates, structural characteristics, affordability of housing, as well as housing policies and programs.

**Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(b)**

(b) Housing element. A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs of the local governmental unit to provide an adequate housing supply that meets existing and forecasted housing demand in the local governmental unit. The element shall assess the age, structural, value and occupancy characteristics of the local governmental unit's housing stock. The element shall also identify specific policies and programs that promote the development of housing for residents of the local governmental unit and provide a range of housing choices that meet the needs of persons of all income levels and of all age groups and persons with special needs, policies and programs that promote the availability of land for the development or redevelopment of low-income and moderate-income housing, and policies and programs to maintain or rehabilitate the local governmental unit's existing housing stock.

HOUSING POLICIES

The following are the housing policies for the Town of Ridgeway.

- **Encourage the provision of an adequate supply of single-family homes. Allow choices of owner and renter type-housing units to serve the current and future needs of all residents.**
- **Promote the preservation and rehabilitation of the existing housing stock in the Town of Ridgeway**

The rehabilitation of housing may not be a problem in Ridgeway today, but it may become one as homes age and require repairs.

The Division of Community Development (DCD) has identified the conservation of quality housing and housing accessibility as top priorities for allocating federal and state housing resources in Wisconsin. Programs are established to provide essential home rehabilitation, accessibility, and other necessary improvements for dwelling units occupied by low-income homeowners. For more information, go to doa.wi.gov and this Section.

- **Encourage the preservation and expansion of the supply of affordable rental and ownership housing for low and moderate-income individuals.**
- **Enforce the Iowa County Zoning Ordinance to maintain the character of existing and future residential neighborhoods.**

The key is enforcement of the zoning ordinance, avoiding variances. This will help maintain the character of the Town by enforcing setback requirements, separating incompatible land uses, and enforcing other requirements as outlined in the County ordinance. For more information, go to www.iowacounty.org/countyboard/ordinances.shtml.

- **Coordinate planning activities with Iowa County and surrounding jurisdictions to effectively plan for residential growth.**

For more information, go to Section G, Intergovernmental Cooperation Element.

- **Discourage residential development from areas where soils, slope, or other topographical limitations prove to be unsuitable.**

Review proposed new housing developments to be sure they are in areas best suited for residential development. For example, slope limitations can cause a number of problems, such as run off, steepness of driveways, flow problems for water and sanitary sewer service. Refer to the maps in Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Element and Map H.1, Section H, Land Use Element for more information. See Section I, Implementation Element for the Town's rural residential siting criteria.

- **Continue to identify areas and designate land for future housing developments.**

Identifying areas where future residential development is desirable helps the Town plan for overall future growth. The Town of Ridgeway encourages new housing development in close proximity to cities and villages. Such developments may be identified as "Smart Growth Areas" and can reduce infrastructure costs and keep similar land uses in certain areas. For more information, go to Map H.1, Section H, Land Use Element.

- **Review new housing proposals and support those proposals and programs that meet the Town's housing needs and are consistent with the policies outlined in the comprehensive plan.**

Review housing proposals to be sure they are consistent with the policies outlined not only in the housing section of the comprehensive plan, but other sections as well. This may include doing some type of fiscal impact analysis answering the question: do the benefits of the proposed development outweigh the costs?

TOWN OF RIDGEWAY HOUSING IMPACT CONCERNS

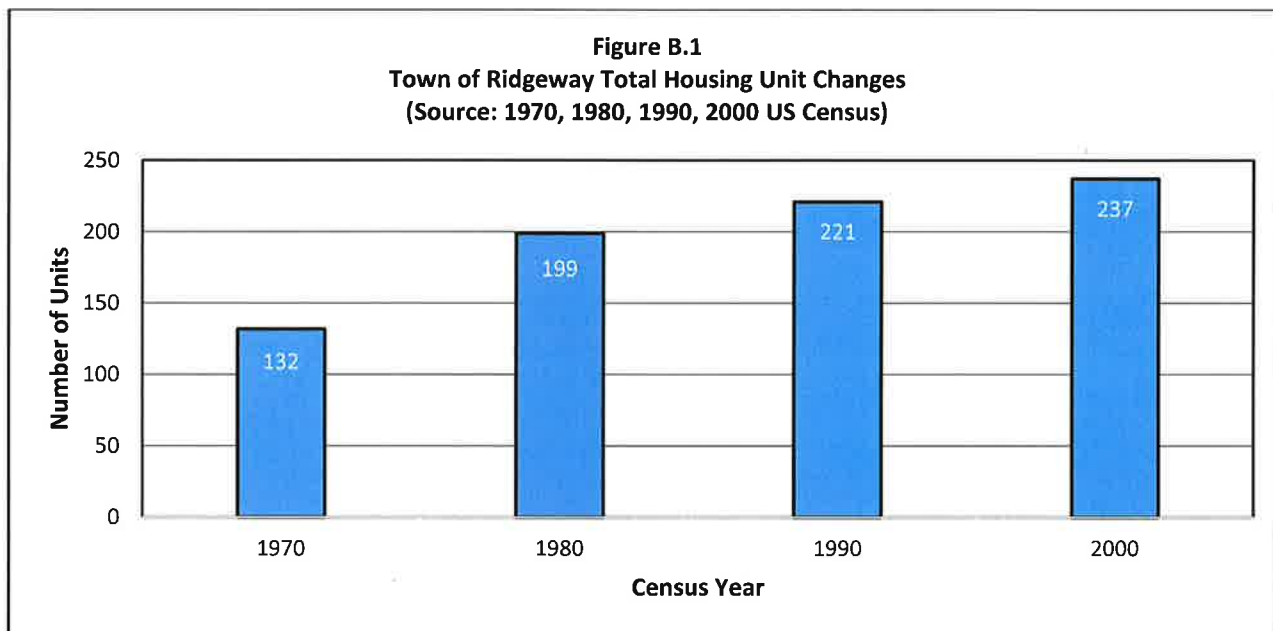
The Plan Commission listed concerns that might impact housing development in the Town.

- Sewage
- Groundwater
- Roads
- Law enforcement and fire protection
- Nuisance problems
- Water availability

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

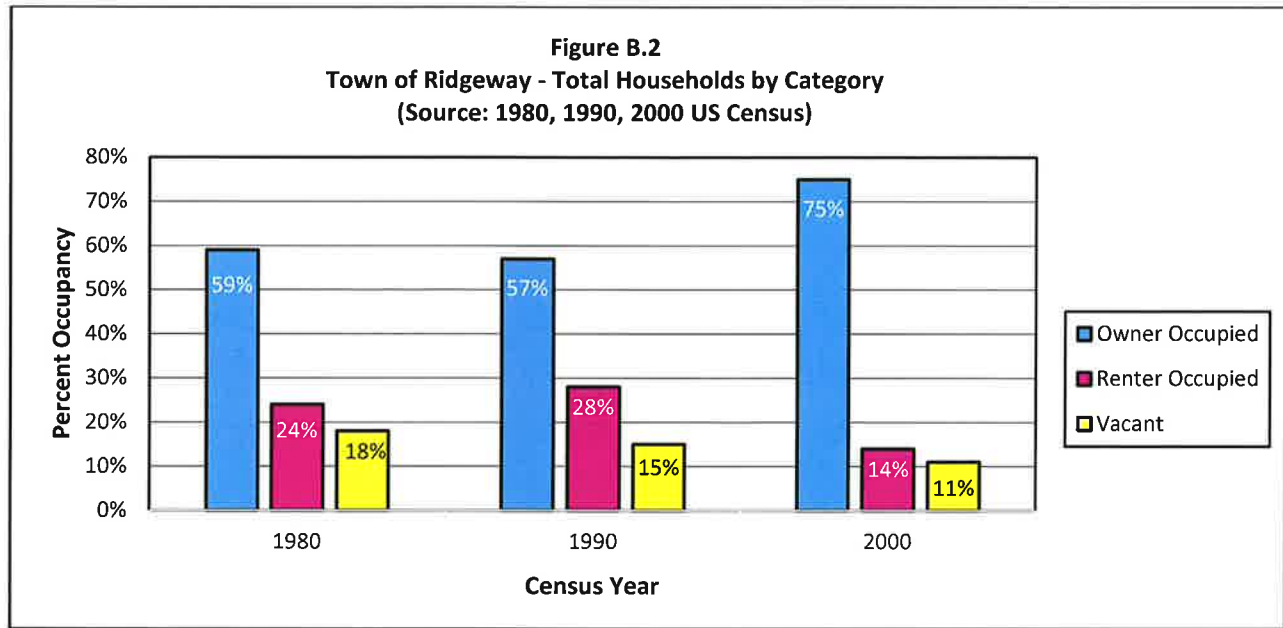
HOUSING UNITS

The Town of Ridgeway housing supply has increased by 105 units over the last 30 years. As indicated in Figure B.1, the most significant increase occurred between 1970 and 1980, with an increase of sixty-seven units.



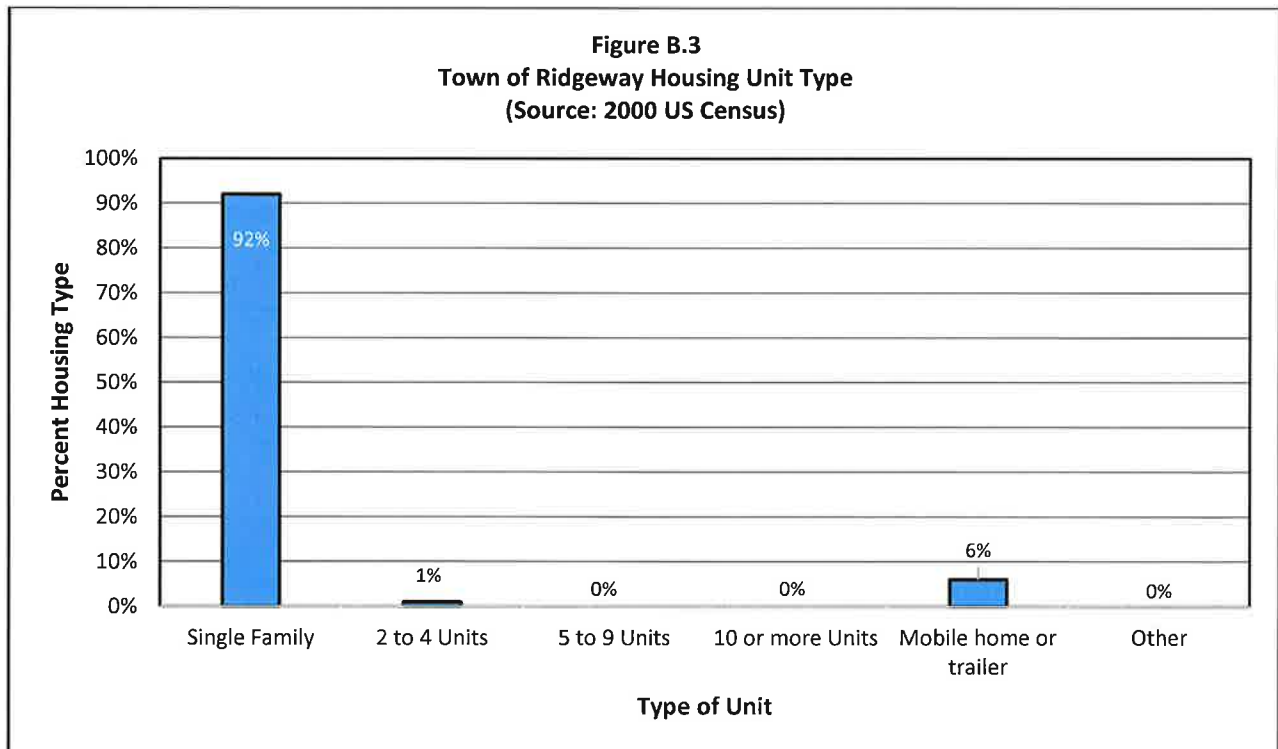
OCCUPANCY CHARACTERISTICS

Figure B.2 indicates the occupancy of households in the Town of Ridgeway according to the 1980, 1990, and 2000 US Census. Between 1990 and 2000, there was an 18 percent increase in owner occupied households, while the rental rate dropped 14 percent, and the vacancy rate decreased 4 percent. According to the 2000 Census, of the 237 housing units in the Town of Ridgeway, 178 were owner occupied, thirty-three were renter occupied, with the remaining twenty-six units vacant. The average number of persons per household was 2.64 for owner occupied units, 3.15 for rental units.



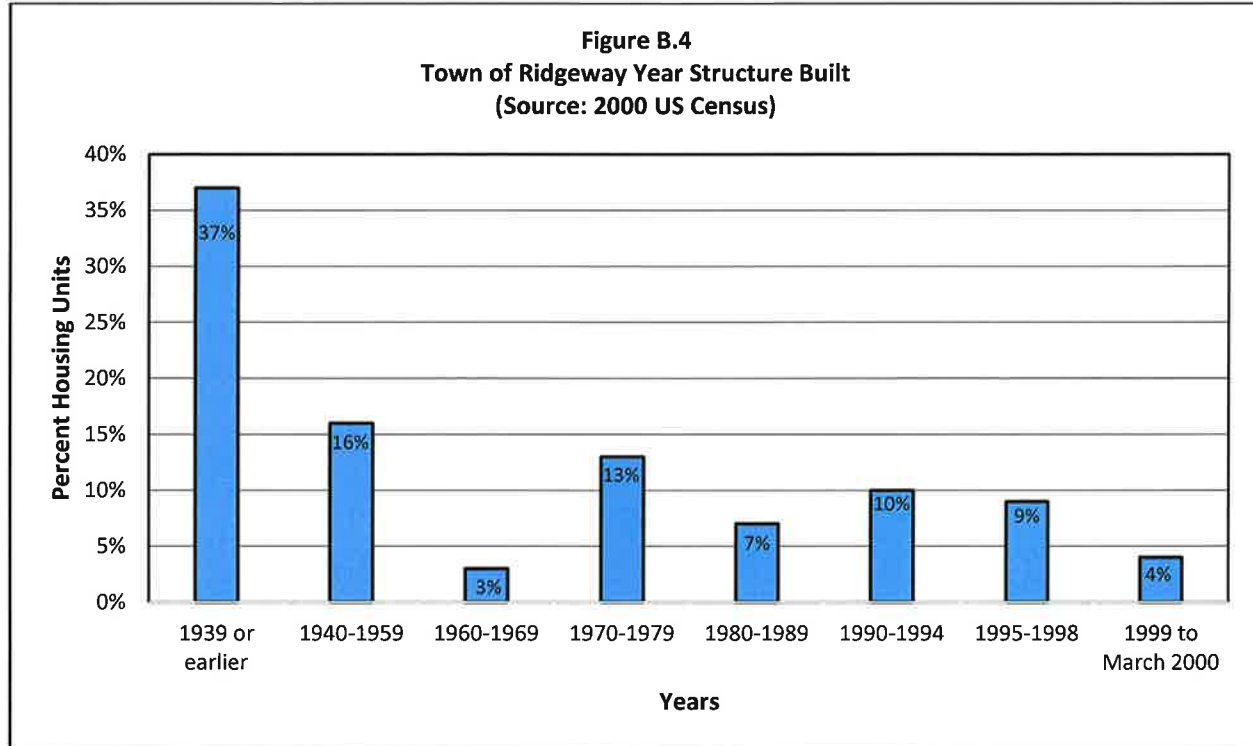
STRUCTURAL CHARACTERISTICS

Figure B.3 indicates the type of housing units in the Town of Ridgeway as reported in the 2000 US Census. As indicated, the majority of housing units (92%) in the Town of Ridgeway are single-family homes.



AGE CHARACTERISTICS

Figure B.4 shows the age of housing stock in the Town of Ridgeway. Approximately 37 percent of Town of Ridgeway houses were constructed in 1939 or earlier. Thirty-nine percent were built between 1940 and 1989 and 23 percent were constructed in the past decade.



HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

This planning process is an opportunity for local communities to increase housing choices not only by modifying development patterns, but also by increasing the supply in existing neighborhoods that can be served by the current infrastructure.

As mentioned previously in this section, housing affordability is a major component of the comprehensive plan. No single type of housing can serve the varied needs of today’s diverse households. Table B.1 compares median home values over a ten-year period (1990 – 2000), showing the difference in home values throughout the county. Table B.2 compares median rents paid over the same ten-year period for the county.

Table B.1: Comparison of Owner Occupied Median Home Values – 1990 & 2000

			Change in Median Home Value 1990 to 2000
Iowa County	\$46,500	\$91,800	\$45,300
Village of Ridgeway	\$44,300	\$88,000	\$43,700

(Source: 1990 & 2000 US Census)

Table B.2: Comparison of Renter Occupied Median Rent Paid – 1990 & 2000

			Change in Median Rent 1990 to 2000
Iowa County	\$323	\$502	\$179
Village of Ridgeway	\$221	\$497	\$276

(Source: 1990 & 2000 US Census)

OWNER-OCCUPIED CHARACTERISTICS

Figure B.5 indicates the value of the owner-occupied units in the Town of Ridgeway. The majority of homes in the Town range in value from \$150,000 to \$199,999, with other units both above and below. The median value an owner-occupied home in the Town in 2000 was \$153,400.

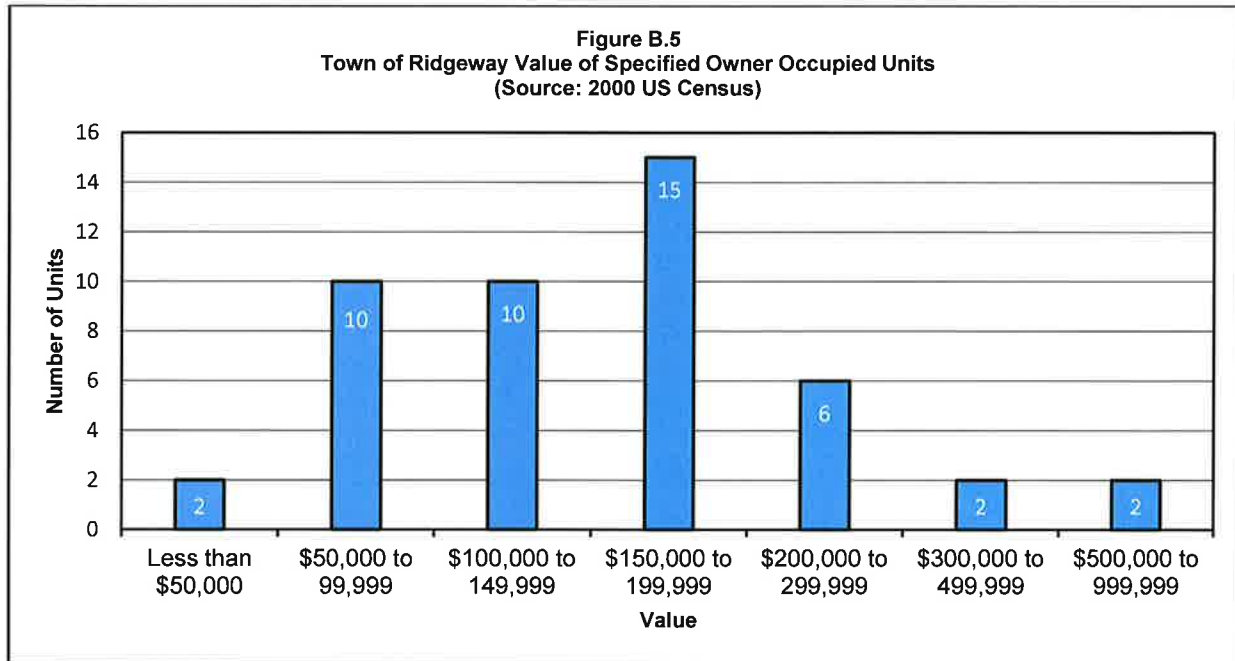
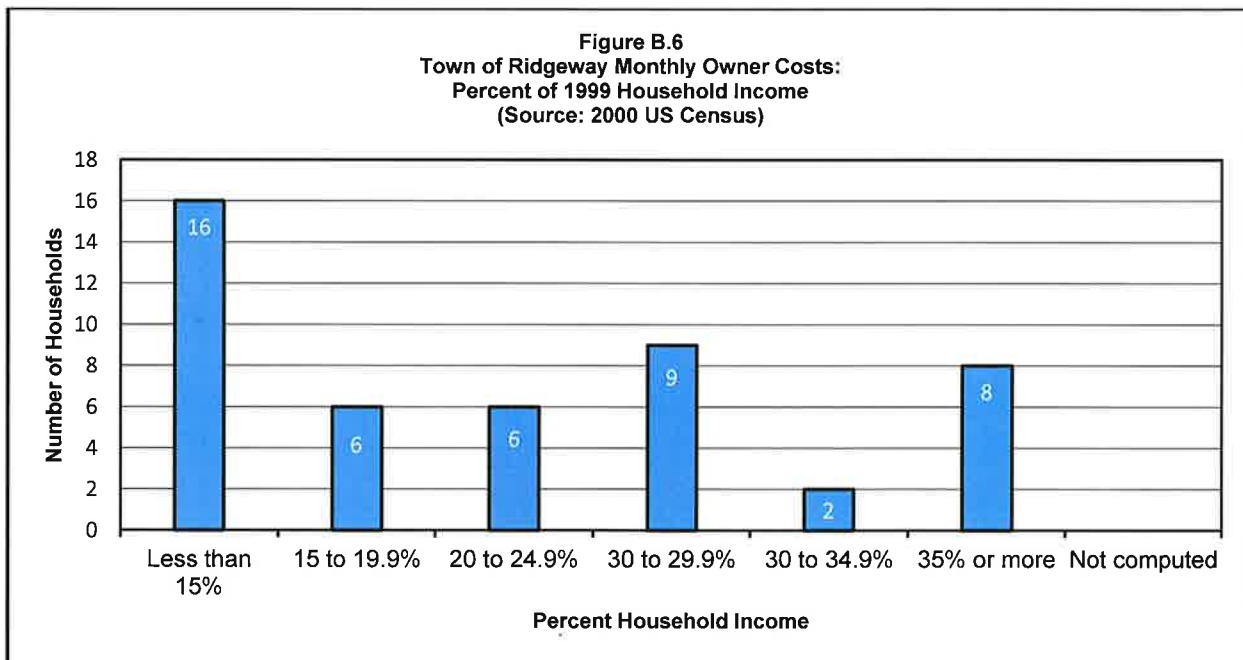


Figure B.6 indicates monthly owner costs as a percentage of 1999 household income. A total of ten households are paying more than 30 percent of their income towards housing costs. A home is generally considered affordable when the total costs do not exceed 30 percent of total household income. However, residents may choose to pay more for a particular style or type of home.



HOUSING AGENCIES & PROGRAMS

There are a number of available state and federal housing agencies and programs to assist individuals, developers, and communities in Iowa County. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs. Contact information has been provided for each agency. To find out more specific information or which program best fits your needs contact them directly.

DIVISION OF ENERGY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources (DEHCR) develops housing policy and offers a broad range of program assistance and funds to address homelessness and support affordable housing, public infrastructure and economic development opportunities. The Division partners with local governments and service providers, non-profit agencies, housing authorities and developers. In addition, DEHCR administers the statewide program to assist eligible households by providing electric and heating bill payment assistance, as well as benefits and services to assist with energy crisis situations. Eligible households may also receive weatherization services. For more information contact <http://doa.wi.gov/divisions/housing>.

**DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION DIVISION OF
ENERGY, HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY RESOURCES**
101 East Wilson Street
5th & 6th Floors
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 608-267-0770

WISCONSIN HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (WHEDA)

WHEDA's mission is to stimulate the state's economy and improve the quality of life for Wisconsin residents by providing affordable housing and business financing products. WHEDA has mortgage programs tailored to your individual needs, whether you are purchasing or refinancing and a first-time or a repeat buyer.

WHEDA
201 West Washington Avenue
Suite 700
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 800-334-6873
Fax: 608-267-1099
www.wheda.com

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

USDA's Rural Housing Service offers a variety of programs to build or improve housing and essential community facilities in rural areas. We offer loans, grants and loan guarantees for single- and multi-family housing, child care centers, fire and police stations, hospitals, libraries, nursing homes, schools, first responder vehicles and equipment, housing for farm laborers and much more. We also provide technical assistance loans and grants in partnership with non-profit organizations, Indian tribes, state and federal government agencies and local communities. We and our partners are working together to ensure that rural America continues to be a great place to live, work and raise a family.

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT
5417 Clem's Way
Stevens Point, WI 54482
Phone: 715-345-7600
rd.stateoffice@wi.usda.gov
www.rd.usda.gov/wi

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes; utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination and transform the way HUD does business.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)**
Milwaukee Field Office
310 West Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 950
Milwaukee, WI 53203-2289
Phone: 414-297-3214
Fax: 414-935-6775
TTY: 414-297-1423

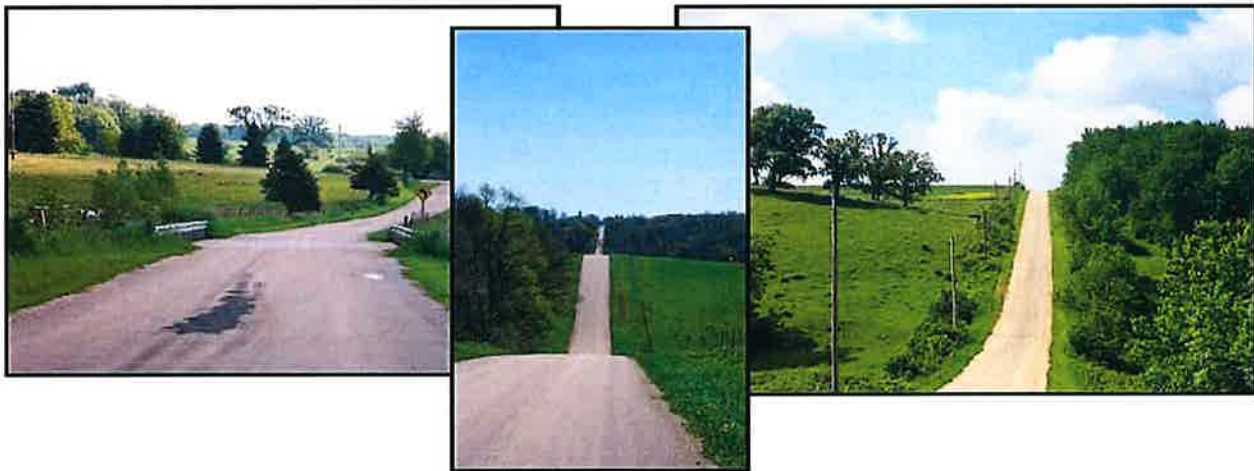
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1977, SWWRPC staff and representatives from its five-member counties conducted a thorough analysis of the region's transportation system. The report's goal was to: serve as a resource for the residents of southwest Wisconsin to use in analyzing transportation proposals; inform readers of the many varied and complex interrelationships evident in any transportation system; help determine where the emphasis should be placed in planning activities; and to provide a more comprehensive outlook when dealing with transportation problems.

In the intervening years, other transportation plans and reports have also looked at Iowa County and the region, resulting in many improvements to the transportation system.

This document is structured to provide historic context (see Map C.1 for early transportation routes in southwest Wisconsin) and to provide information on local issues within the transportation framework. Although many issues are presented in a regional context, the assertion made in the SWWRPC 1972 *Technical Report No. 4: Prospective for Regional Transportation Planning* holds true today: "It should be emphasized, however, that regional planning is not a substitute for local planning. On the contrary, regional planning is intended to strengthen local planning efforts by providing a more comprehensive base of information in a regional context in order to facilitate rational private and public decisions on the local level."

The advantage of using a regional context to inform local transportation planning is that the relationship to scale is reinforced. From this perspective, the Transportation Element provides historic and regional context, considers local transportation needs, and based on local input provides a 20-year jurisdictional plan that can serve as a resource guide and implementation tool.



Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(c)

(c) Transportation element. A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of the various modes of transportation, including highways, transit, transportation systems for persons with disabilities, bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, walking, railroads, air transportation, trucking and water transportation. The element shall compare the local governmental unit's objectives, policies, goals and programs to state and regional transportation plans. The element shall also identify highways within the local governmental unit by function and incorporate state, regional and other applicable transportation plans, including transportation corridor plans, county highway functional and jurisdictional studies, urban area and rural area transportation plans, airport master plans and rail plans that apply in the local governmental unit.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

The following are the transportation policies of the Town of Ridgeway.

- **Local Transportation Infrastructure and Issues**
 - Create a bicycle route connector to Folklore Village, and the Ridgeway Pine Relict State Natural Area, and to nearby camping facilities.
 - Create a Park and Ride lot in the vicinity of the new US 18/151 interchange.
- **Transit, Accessibility, and Special Needs Users**
 - Support the development and promotion of paratransit services for local residents.
- **Land Use**
 - Concern about the impact of growth on land use.
- **Cost**
 - Capital Improvement Program.
 - Maintenance and Improvement Funding Source.

TOWN OF RIDGEWAY

In reviewing the transportation survey responses that had been completed by residents, the Town of Ridgeway's Plan Commission identified the primary issues and concerns for this plan.

- The most satisfactory part of the Town of Ridgeway's existing transportation system is that town roads are kept in good driving condition.
- The least satisfactory aspect of the community's transportation system is that there is no public transportation.
- The aspect of the community's transportation system that respondents felt was most important to improve is that all gravel roads should be seal coated.

The Town of Ridgeway's Plan Commission respondents identified transportation projects or issues that they foresee in their jurisdiction.

- In the Land Use Element, the Town of Ridgeway Plan Commission respondents expressed concern that development along the USH 18/151 corridor is not helping the jurisdiction to achieve its land use vision and should be discouraged. Concerns were raised about road access and sewerage disposal. Land uses that are encouraged are agriculture and open space.
- The town encourages new housing development to be in close proximity to the Village of Ridgeway. Although a cluster design is favored by the Plan Commission, such development would likely be single family homes in a predominantly rural setting. The Plan Commission does not consider sidewalks to be appropriate. In Section H, Land Use Element, subdivision development is seen as a potential land use conflict and concern was expressed about driveway density.

NEXT STEPS: The Town of Ridgeway coordinates with neighboring jurisdictions, Iowa County, and WisDOT. Careful consideration should be given when providing road access for new development. Input from WisDOT would be helpful in the planning process.

The next section looks more closely at the locally identified transportation issues. In reviewing the transportation survey responses that had been completed by residents, the Town of Ridgeway's Plan Commission respondents ranked the following transportation issues as having the highest priority for meeting local needs (#1 is the highest priority ranking):

- 1 **Transportation safety**
- 2 **Agricultural-vehicle mobility**
- 3 **Connectivity with the larger transportation system**
- 4 **Transportation to support economic development**
- 5 **Transportation needs of the elderly and disabled**
- 6 **Freight mobility**

These issues thread throughout the Town of Ridgeway's plan—including its housing, economic development, land use, and implementation elements. Although the scope of this plan is local, it recognizes that local planning is part of the mosaic that should inform WisDOT's vision and priorities for budgeting and planning. WisDOT also acknowledges the complexity of balancing these issues:

"Wisconsin's healthy economy has also caused increased commuter and commercial demand on local roads and streets. Much of the state's 100,000 miles of local roads are facing the same aging infrastructure needs as the state highways. Furthermore, an ever-increasing number of local roads are experiencing congestion problems as communities continue to grow. Because it is essential that state highways and local roads and streets work in unison, the state has to continue to provide funding to local units of governments to help support construction, improvement and maintenance of locally owned highways, roads, streets and bridges. As is the case with the state highway system, it is likely that demands on local roads and streets will continue to grow in the future (WisDOT)."

Like WisDOT, local governments grapple with these issues and constraints as they make decisions related to housing, development, schools, roads, and funding. A report entitled *The Evaluation of Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plans*, examined Wisconsin's Transportation Plans and concluded:

"Population growth alone is a challenge that is anticipated in many states. Wisconsin anticipates a 13 percent growth over the plan period [through 2020]. This will create additional demand on existing transportation facilities, along with requiring additional services. This need for services will be compounded by the fact that both its elderly and working age populations will be increasing, with their separate transportation needs" (prepared for the FHWA and US DOT, April 2002)."

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE & ISSUES

The comprehensive planning survey, yielded these responses from the residents of the Town of Ridgeway:

- The majority agreed or strongly agreed that Iowa County's overall road network (roads, streets, and highways) meets the needs of its citizens.
- The majority agreed or strongly agreed that the condition of local roads in the Town of Ridgeway is adequate for intended uses.

Transportation Modes

Plan Commission respondents were asked to identify the transportation modes that currently use public infrastructure within the Town of Ridgeway (in addition to personal cars, trucks, and motorcycles). They are identified below with an **X**.

	Mode	Used	Not Used
Travel	Carpooling	X	
	Para-transit (shared-ride, taxi)		X
Agriculture	Tractors	X	
	ATVs (all-terrain vehicles)	X	
Recreation	Bicycles	X	
	ATVs	X	
Freight	Trucking	X	
	Rail		X
	Air		X

Existing Roadways

The Town of Ridgeway has 65.53 miles of roads:

- 16.78 miles of County Trunk Highways
- 48.75 miles of Local Roads

The most heavily trafficked road through the jurisdiction is, of course, USH 18/151; it is classified on the County’s rural functional highway system as a principal arterial, which is classified on the County’s rural functional highway system as a major collector. CTH H, north of the Village of Ridgeway, connects with USH 14 and is classified on the County’s rural functional highway system as a major collector. For more information, see Maps C.2, C.3 and C.4 and Table C-2.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Transportation is a factor in location decisions of commercial and industrial development. In locations where the development is included in local plans, communities should also assess their transportation infrastructure and determine what future improvements may be needed. Communication, during this planning process and when unforeseen development opportunities arise, should include WisDOT, adjacent governmental units, as well as interested parties and other stakeholders. The value of local plans is that they inform county, regional, and state plans and this coordination can help to identify the transportation facilities needed by future development.

The Town of Ridgeway’s Plan Commission respondents were asked whether their existing local transportation system does a good job of meeting the needs of the jurisdiction’s economic development goals related to:

- Agriculture Yes
- Retail/Commerce Not Sure
- Shipping Yes
- Manufacturing Yes
- Tourism Yes
- Park and Ride No

ENVIRONMENT

Transportation and construction projects can impact the natural environment around a project area. When making short- and long-term transportation decisions, it is important to adequately address environmental implications on air quality and energy consumption; agricultural lands; and wetlands and wildlife. To minimize these effects, efforts to preserve the environment of a project area can include:

- Wetland mitigation (preservation, creation, enhancement and restoration)
- Prairie restoration
- Archeological work
- Hazardous waste management
- De-icing procedures and salt reduction
- Storm water management

- Noise monitoring and noise walls
- Nesting boxes
- Erosion control

One aspect of this is to manage storm water run-off from transportation facilities. Additionally, transportation improvements and community development decisions should be coordinated and the impacts that each has on the other should be considered.

AESTHETICS

The 40-mile Military Ridge State Trail runs through the Town of Ridgeway, along the former Chicago and North Western Railroad corridor. The limestone-surfaced trail is open to hikers, bicyclists, and wheelchair users in late spring, summer, and fall and snowmobilers and cross-country skiers in the winter. There are several observation platforms adjacent to the trail for viewing wetlands, wildlife, and other natural features. In Ridgeway, the trail passes by a historic railroad depot.

Bike Trails, in the Town of Ridgeway, were rated good or excellent by 67 percent of survey respondents. According to the Iowa County Bicycling Conditions map (see the *Bicycle Trails & Road Improvements* section of this document) most county roads in the Town of Ridgeway are rated “best conditions for bicycling.” Of Town of Ridgeway survey respondents who expressed an opinion, only 39 percent indicated that they agreed or strongly agreed that there should be more biking and walking lanes along public roadways.

TRANSIT, ACCESSIBILITY, and SPECIAL NEEDS USERS

The State of Wisconsin Van Pool Service, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, currently operates vans that make stops in Iowa County and one of these routes has a pick-up point in Ridgeway. Although limited, transportation for the elderly and disabled is provided by the Iowa County Commission on Aging.

PRIORITIES & FUTURE PROJECTS – TRANSIT

Support the development and promotion of paratransit services for local residents.

In 2002, the Town of Ridgeway’s Plan Commission survey respondents were concerned that the current level of service for the elderly and disabled is insufficient to meet current and future needs.

Park- and-ride

In 2016, 70% of the Town of Ridgeway’s Plan Commission survey respondents indicated that a park-and-ride lot should be provided near the new highway interchange.

LAND USE

The land use and transportation relationship is cyclical, beginning when population and economic growth create demand for land development. New development results in more vehicle trips and places greater demand on surrounding streets, roads, and highways. This is a complex interrelationship. As a WisDOT report acknowledges,

“WisDOT influences land development mostly through the provision of infrastructure. Some transportation-related regulations also may have an effect. For state transportation, the effects on surrounding land uses are often more unintentional than intentional ... the most significant role that transportation plays in land development is affecting access to land.”

Some land use trend indicators include:

- Past and projected population growth
- Employment trends by sector
- Residential housing permits housing prices over the last 5-10 years

- Population densities changes: persons/acre; households/acre; commercial persons/acre use (indicating rate of land consumption)
- Conversion of ag-land to non-ag-land uses and comparison with the land sale prices land remaining in ag (indicating stability of ag-uses)
- Participation in Farmland Preservation Program (indicating stability of ag-uses)
- Septic system permits (indicating development in unsewered areas)
- Changes (or requests) to expand sewer service areas (indicating expansion of urban service areas)
- Commuting patterns (indicating the relationship between employment and residential land uses)

(From *Land Use in Environmental Documents: Indirect and Cumulative Effects Analysis for Project-Induced Land Development*. WisDOT, 1993)

Local government plans, in conjunction with a zoning ordinance, attempt to direct residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural uses to the most appropriate part of the community. When coordination is lacking or inadequate, the outcome can cause congestion and increase the chance for crashes. Retrofitting transportation facilities for enhanced mobility and safety is difficult for local governments and WisDOT.

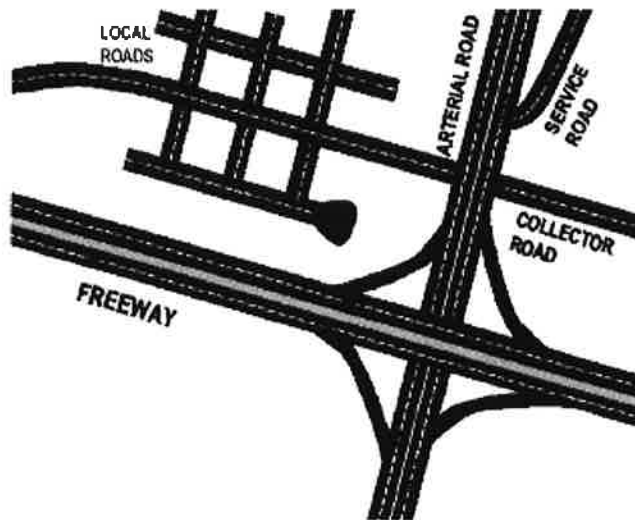
But realistically, given the cyclical nature of the transportation-land use relationship, when transportation improvements alleviate congestion, the newly developed land may become even more accessible, resulting in higher land values and greater pressure to develop adjacent, undeveloped land. The cycle begins again with more intensive levels of development and greater transportation demands. These pressures are being felt in eastern Iowa County. Although some parts of the county are not seeing growth, they may anticipate continued spillover that will have an impact on local development and infrastructure within the 20-year planning window.

Coordination with local governments and WisDOT can serve to address future mobility needs by looking at the potential impacts of planned development. If plans indicate that increased capacity will be needed, it can be incorporated into the transportation plan for that area. If this communication occurs during the planning process, coordination can help to ensure that more options are considered. One of the tools that can help to assess alternatives is to conduct a traffic impact analysis, looking at possible scenarios.

Ideally, WisDOT is included in the local planning process and effective planning helps the community to realize its local goals for development, efficiency, and safety, while minimizing environmental impacts. This can save both money and time, over the long- and short-term. When developments are planned and sited with adequate transportation facilities the community benefits. Land is developed more efficiently if proximity to other development and to transportation infrastructure. WisDOT (and the taxpayers) benefit because transportation investments continue to function throughout their projected life cycle and the public gets the best return on its tax investment.

The community can plan for areas of new business and housing development that will be served by a system of local roads or streets. Rather than wait for a developer proposal, the comprehensive planning process is an opportunity for the community to lay out a logical system of collectors and local roads in undeveloped areas with the jurisdiction's boundaries. The community can potentially alter the plan to suit a particular development's needs and still uphold an overall plan that ensures efficient and safe connectivity. If there are questions during the planning process about the access management implications of a proposed development, coordination with WisDOT early in the process can help minimize future conflicts.

ENHANCING & IMPROVING CONNECTIVITY



Access management attempts to minimize conflicts by coordinating land development access, while preserving the flow of traffic on the surrounding road system in terms of safety, capacity, and speed. The main function of access management is to establish a balance between the existing traffic flow and highway access. It is achieved through managing the design and location of driveways, median openings, and points of access to the state highway system. The level of highway access control is based on the importance of the highway to regional and statewide travel as determined through a functional classification system. Although controversial in some jurisdictions, its primary goal is to ensure highway safety and to sustain the efficiency of the transportation system so costly retrofits don't have to be made later.

EFFICIENCY & SAFETY

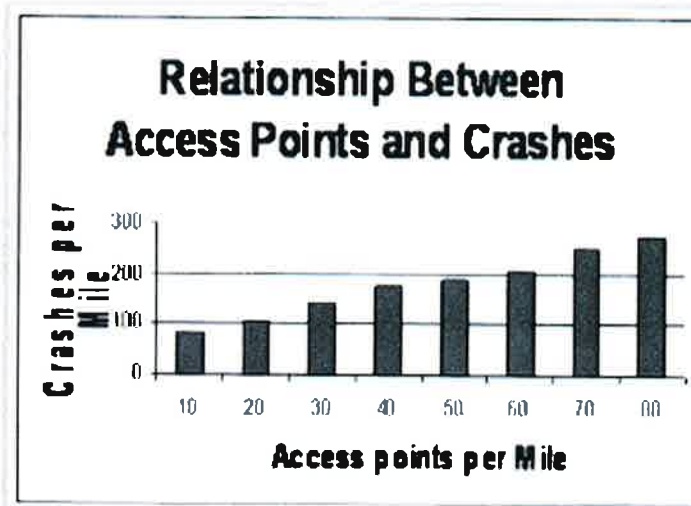
A 1980 report entitled *Access Control* explained the rationale for the state's access management regulations:

"The highly interdependent relationship that exists between land use and highways makes it necessary for the planning of each to be coordinated with the other. ... A property system must provide access to property and safe, efficient movement of traffic from one place to another. Both of these functions cannot easily be provided on the same street or highway. Vehicles entering or leaving the roadway slow traffic and cause congestion. Congested streets or highways handle less traffic than if traffic were moving freely. In addition, congestion imposes increased travel costs on users in the form of longer travel time and greater operating costs, higher accident rates, and loss of the public investment in the street or highway because its traffic carrying capacity is reduced. Access control can provide an effective and low cost means of abating the harmful effects of congestion. Five direct advantages are afforded by controlling access:

- *Preservation of the capacity and integrity of the roadway*
- *Reduction of travel times*
- *Improved safety and driving conditions*
- *Economy of operation*
- *And protection of the public investment in streets and highways.*

In contrast, relieving congestion by building new streets and highways [and bypasses] is becoming increasingly less desirable as it becomes more and more difficult to acquire the necessary rights-of-way and to find public funds to pay high construction costs. Continued new construction also consumes extensive amounts of land that may more profitably be put to other uses. ... Like it or not, none of us have an absolute unlimited right to use our land in any manner we please. We must take into consideration the impact that our use of land and land rights will have on others, both our immediate neighbors and the general public. Thus, if use of the right of access creates harmful interference with the public right to travel on a street or highway by increasing congestion and the likelihood of having an accident, the right of access may be regulated..."

Since 1980, when the quoted report was written, development pressures have only increased. Perhaps the reason that crash data has decreased is that jurisdictions have worked to ensure the safety of corridor routes is preserved. Nonetheless, access management has been a contentious issue and some people believe that the regulations impede development. However, congestion, caused by poor planning, and the resulting loss of the efficiency of a roadway may make development less attractive. On a human scale, the most important issue and the greatest responsibility is to ensure safety.



MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS



According to the UW-Madison Transportation Information Center, by using the PASER system and Roadware software, municipalities can determine budget parameters, select possible projects, and evaluate the implications of maintenance decisions.

The Town of Ridgeway uses the state’s PASER (**PA**vement **SUR**face **EVA**luation & **R**ating) system and reported that the system has been a useful tool for selecting projects and local budgeting.

COST

For many local governments, maintenance of the local road system is the single largest expenditure category. Privatization is often touted, but to-date, only a small handful of Wisconsin cities and villages (less than 1 percent) have privatized street repair and maintenance. A more common municipal practice in Wisconsin is contracting with county highway departments for certain types of repairs and maintenance, ranging from complete contracting to cooperative projects. Not surprisingly, development can add new demands for services and increase local costs without providing comparable increase in revenues. (Taken, in part, from UW-Extension *Fact Sheet #2: Comparison of Service Production Methods and the Incidence of Privatization.*)

FUTURE PROJECTS & PRIORITIES - COST

Maintenance & Improvements

The State of Wisconsin’s Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) is a reimbursement program and pays up to 50 percent of total eligible project costs, with the balance matched by the local unit of government. Towns are eligible under the Town Road Improvement Program (TRIP). Eligible projects include (but are not limited to) asphalt purchasing, bridge replacement or rehabilitation, design or feasibility studies, reconstruction, and resurfacing. LRIP is a biennial program. See Appendix C-6 for more information.

Capital Improvement Program

Many municipalities use a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to assist in planning for major project costs. A CIP is a multi-year scheduling of physical public improvements, based on the examination of available fiscal resources, as well as the prioritization of specific public improvements, to be constructed for a period of five to six years into the future. Capital improvements are those that include new or expanded physical facilities that are relatively large in size, expensive, and permanent. Street improvements, public libraries,

water and sewer lines, and park and recreation facilities are common examples of capital improvements.

The Town of Ridgeway currently does not have a Capital Improvement Plan, but respondents expressed interest in creating a capital improvement program and requested more information.

Table C.2: STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR LOCAL ROADS

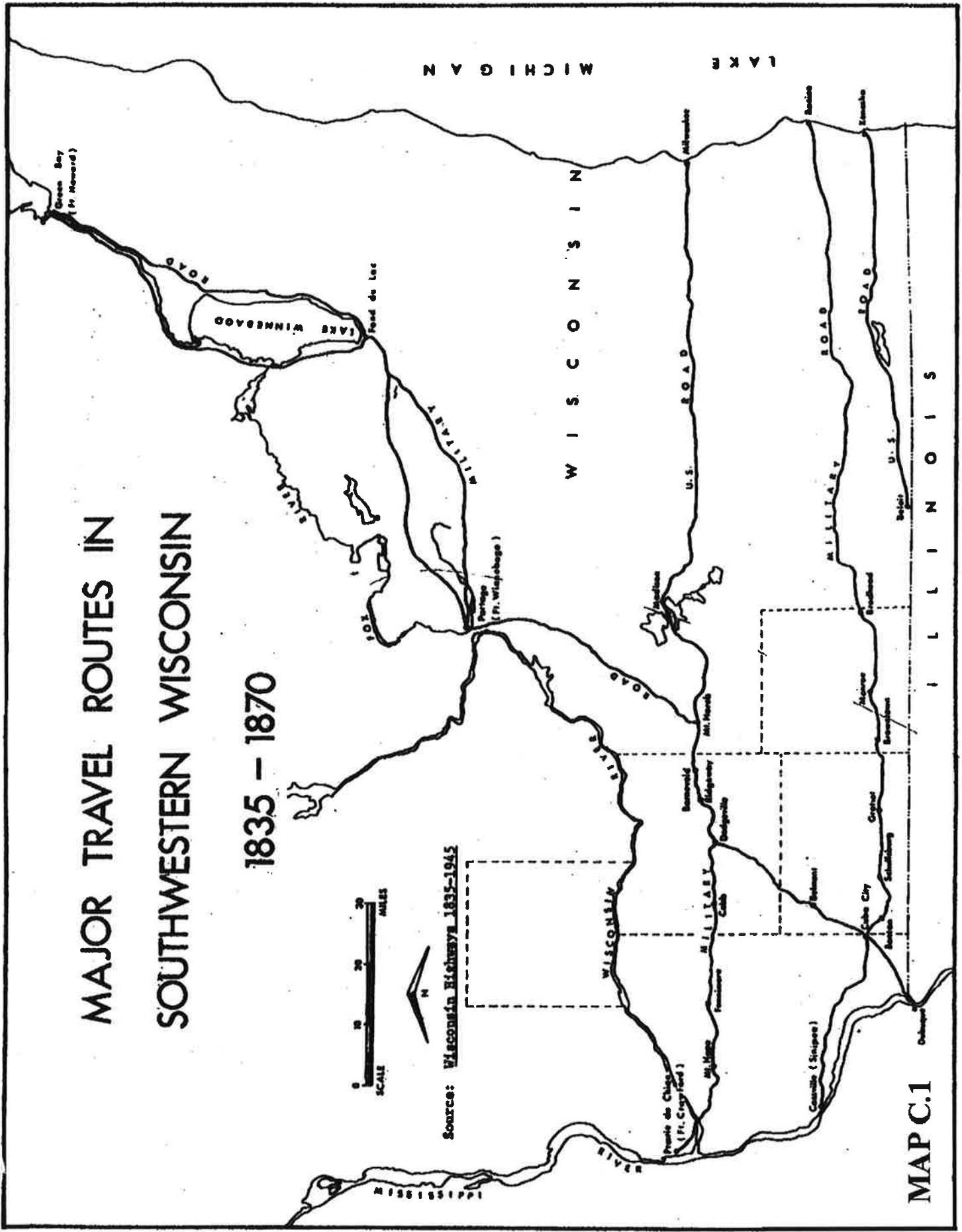
City/Village/Town/County Certified Mileage List - (R-03) - updated January 1, 2017

Road Name	Gross Miles	County Miles	Municipal Miles	County Jurisdiction			Municipal Jurisdiction		
				Art.	Coll.	Loc.	Art.	Coll.	Loc.
Alfred Dr	0.81		0.81						0.81
Aschliman Rd	0.46		0.46						0.46
Black Oak Rd	1.54		1.54						1.54
W Brigham Rd	0.9		0.9						0.9
Brotherhood Ln	2.38		2.38						2.38
Cemetery Rd	0.62		0.62						0.62
S Clay Hill Rd	3.29		3.29						3.29
Crossen Rd	0.47		0.47						0.47
CTH BB	2.48	2.48			2.48				
CTH H	8.6	8.6			8.6				
CTH HHH	0.57	0.57			0.57				
CTH T	0.97	0.97			0.97				
CTH W	0.91	0.91			0.91				
CTH Y	2.95	2.95			2.24	0.71			
CTH ZZ	0.3	0.3			0.3				
Dugway Rd	3.3		3.3						3.3
Freds Dr	0.29		0.29						0.29
F St	0.04		0.04						0.04
Hands Hill Rd	2.67		2.67						2.67
Hi-Point Rd	0.75		0.75						0.75
Johnson Dr	0.37		0.37						0.37
Jungbluth Rd	0.43		0.43						0.43
Knobs Rd	2.74		2.74						2.74
Korback Rd	1.36		1.36						1.36
Lawinger Rd	0.5		0.5						0.5
Lease Dr	0.25		0.25						0.25
Lease Rd	0.23		0.23						0.23
Mc Graw Dr	0.09		0.09						0.09
Mill Rd	0.96		0.96						0.96
Moon Rd	1.09		1.09						1.09
Old Hwy 18	0.18		0.18						0.18
Pikes Peak Rd	3.35		3.35						3.35
Prairie Rd	4.51		4.51						4.51
Reed Rd	0.84		0.84						0.84
Ridgevue Rd	2.6		2.6						2.6
Ridgeway Brigham Tn Ln Rd	0.07		0.07						0.07
Rikli Dr	0.18		0.18						0.18
Rock Rd	1.32		1.32						1.32
Rosy Ln	1.81		1.81						1.81
Ryan Rd	0.2		0.2						0.2
Sawle Rd	0.25		0.25						0.25
Section Line Rd	0.68		0.68						0.68
Spring Rd	1.8		1.8						1.8
Strutt Rd	0.65		0.65						0.65
Sunny Ridge Rd	1.42		1.42						1.42
Thomas Rd	0.25		0.25						0.25
Trainor Rd	0.94		0.94						0.94
Twin Ct (1)	0.13		0.13						0.13
Twin Ct (2)	0.07		0.07						0.07
Urness Rd	0.5		0.5						0.5
Weier Rd	1.46		1.46						1.46
Total Miles	65.53	16.78	48.75	0	16.07	0.71	0	0	48.75

MAJOR TRAVEL ROUTES IN SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN

1835 - 1870

Source: Wisconsin Highways 1835-1945

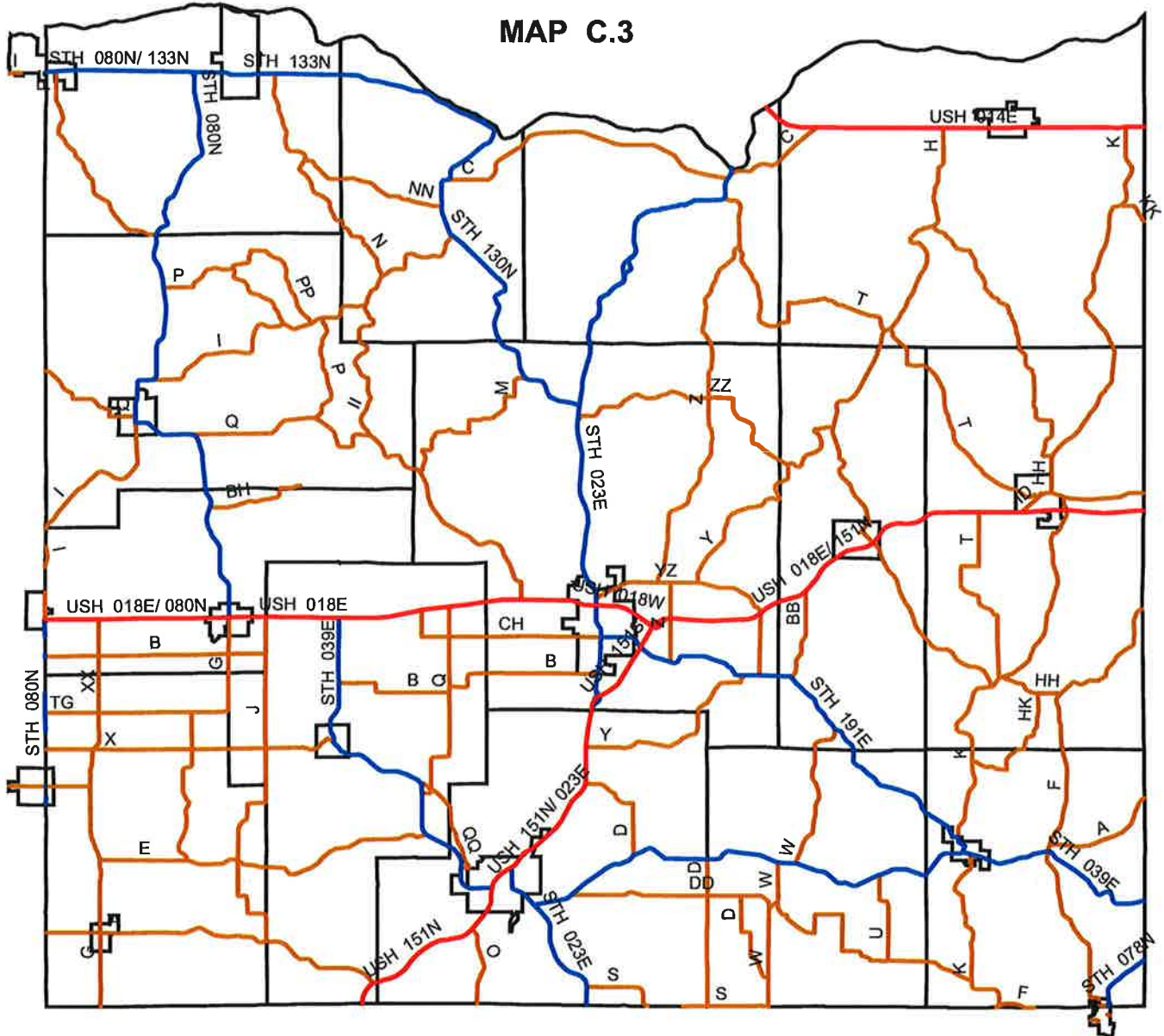


MAP C.1


U.S. & STATE HIGHWAYS AND COUNTY HIGHWAYS

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP C.3



Legend

-  Municipal Boundaries
-  U. S. Highways - USH
-  State Highways - STH
-  County Highways - CTH

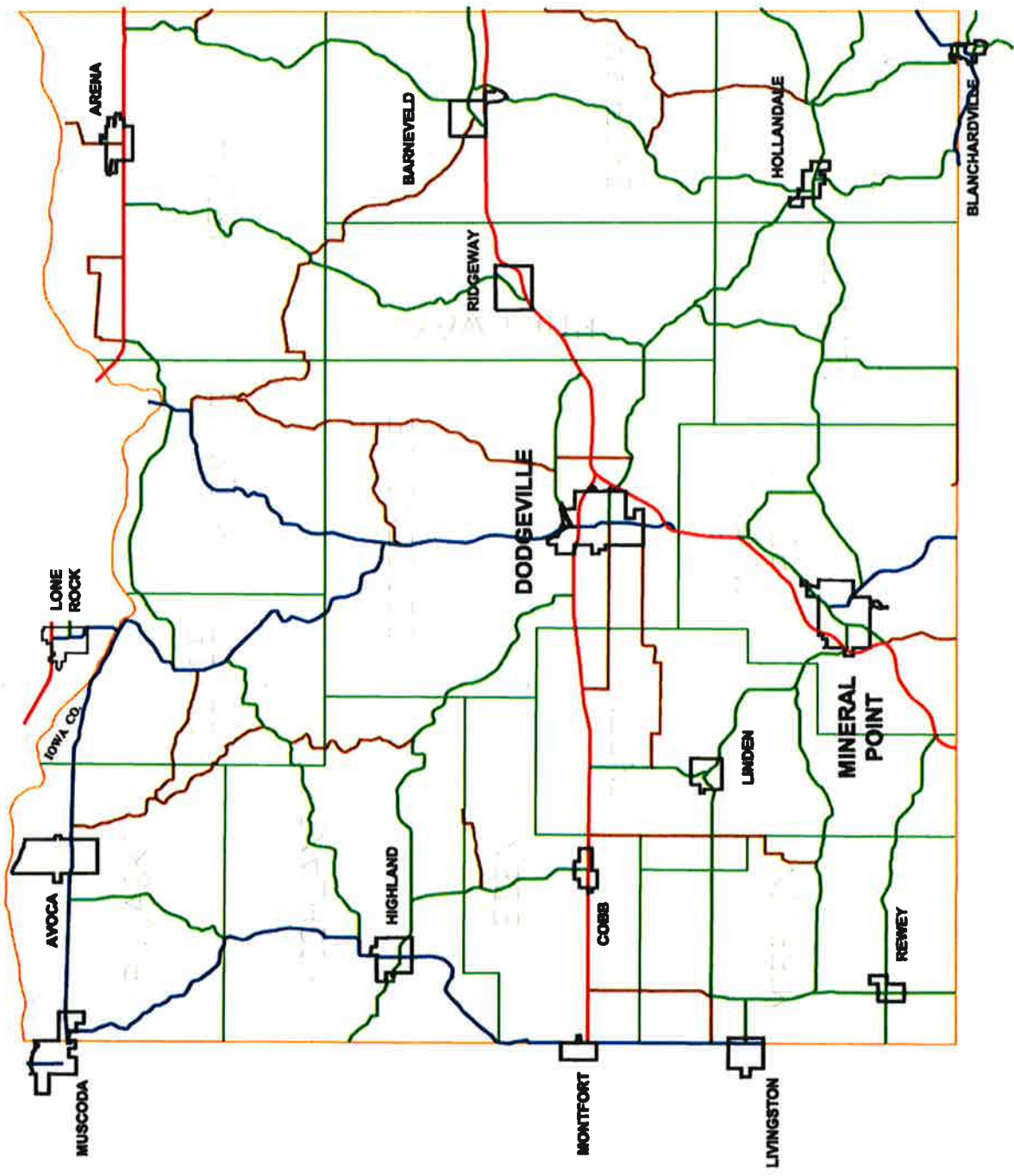
1 inch equals 4.34 miles



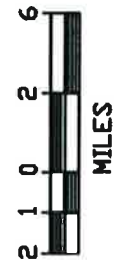
SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

December 17, 2004
IA CO US ST CO HWYS

IOWA COUNTY RURAL FUNCTIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEMS



- LEGEND**
- PRINCIPAL ARTERIALS
 - MAJOR ARTERIALS
 - MAJOR COLLECTORS
 - MINOR COLLECTORS



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
August 19, 1988
Map C.4

MAP C.4

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this section is to inventory existing utilities and community facilities in the Town of Ridgeway. Utilities and community facilities, often referred to as public works, is the physical infrastructure that allows a community to function and grow. Community facilities may include libraries, municipal offices, schools, police stations, fire stations, parks, etc. Many of the community facilities are supported by utilities including water services, sewer system, storm water drainage, electricity, etc. This section also includes projections of when the municipalities may need to upgrade utilities in order to efficiently and effectively support the needs of the population.

**Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(d)**

(d) Utilities and community facilities element. A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in the local governmental unit such as sanitary sewer service, storm water management, water supply, solid waste disposal, on-site wastewater treatment technologies, recycling facilities, parks, telecommunications facilities, power-generating plants and transmission lines, cemeteries, health care facilities, child care facilities and other public facilities, such as police, fire and rescue facilities, libraries, schools and other governmental facilities. The element shall describe the location, use and capacity of existing public utilities and community facilities that serve the local governmental unit, shall include an approximate timetable that forecasts the need in the local governmental unit to expand or rehabilitate existing utilities and facilities or to create new utilities and facilities and shall assess future needs for government services in the local governmental unit that are related to such utilities and facilities.

UTILITY AND COMMUNITY FACILITY POLICIES

The following are the utilities and facilities policies for the Town of Ridgeway.

- **Encourage well testing as a means of protecting drinking water supplies for private, individual well users.**

The responsibility for safe drinking water from private wells resides with the homeowner. However, providing reminders (perhaps through a mailing) and encouraging residents to have their wells checked can be a useful way for the Town to help protect public health.

There are a variety of contaminants that can be in well water and testing for them depends on the type and toxicity of the contaminant. At a minimum, all private wells should be checked annually for Coliform bacteria and nitrates. Other contaminants such as pesticides, lead, copper, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), arsenic, radium, boron, radon, and fluoride are tested on differing schedules, some on an as need basis, others only once for the life of the well.

- **Educate landowners on the management and maintenance of private septic systems.**

Remind Town residents to be aware of the requirements of their septic systems, as all need inspection and maintenance in order to function properly.

- **Develop a storm water management strategy to protect ground and drinking water supplies.**

A Town level storm water management strategy could outline recommendations and techniques to reduce soil erosion, retain or create buffer strips near surface waters, educate the public on non-point source pollution, emphasize conservation agricultural practices, and other such activities that all help reduce the amount of runoff entering the hydrologic system.

- **Develop a strategy for siting telecommunication (“cell”) towers.**

Identifying ahead of time what locations are most suitable and desirable for telecommunication towers will give the Town some measure of control in where towers are placed in the community. This can help prevent towers being placed in locations that are offensive aesthetically or create negative impacts on the local environment.

- **Ensure that new development bears a fair share of capital improvement costs necessitated by the development.**

When approving new developments, be aware of the costs attributed to public works projects such as road or bridge improvements.

- **Guide new growth to areas that are most efficiently served with utilities.**

Extending public utilities (roads, water, sewer) to new development can be very expensive, especially if the development is far from the existing infrastructure. Refer to Section H, Land Use Element for recommended housing development locations in the Town.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

WATER SYSTEM STATISTICS

All drinking water in the Town of Ridgeway comes from private wells, approximately 257 households and 11 eleven businesses in the Town of Ridgeway.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

Private septic systems treat wastewater from approximately 250 households and 11 businesses in the Town of Ridgeway.

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICTS

There are no special service districts in Ridgeway.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

The Town of Ridgeway does not have a storm water management strategy.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

See Map D.1 at the end of this section for locations of community facilities and utilities.

POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Town of Ridgeway police protection is provided by the Iowa County Sheriff's Department. The Ridgeway Fire Department provides fire protection and rescue services are provided by the Dodgeville Area Ambulance Service, the Barneveld Area Rescue Squad and Ridgeway First Response.

RECYCLING AND GARBAGE

The Town of Ridgeway has curbside collection for garbage and recyclables, picked up at driveways every other week.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING/ LIBRARY SERVICES

The Town of Ridgeway Municipal Building and Shop are located near the Village of Ridgeway. Residents of the Town use the City of Dodgeville and Village of Barneveld public libraries.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

There are no education facilities within the Town of Ridgeway, although an elementary school is located in the Village of Ridgeway. Pre-K – 12 education for Town children is provided through the Dodgeville and the Barneveld School Districts.

HIGHER EDUCATION

The colleges and universities nearest the Town of Ridgeway include Southwest Wisconsin Technical College in Fennimore, UW-Madison, Madison College and UW-Platteville. These institutions offer certificates, technical diplomas, associate, bachelor, and master's degrees in a variety of fields.

HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

There are no healthcare facilities located within the Town of Ridgeway. However, residents do have access to healthcare providers such as the Upland Hills Health Hospital in Dodgeville. Town residents use medical clinics located in Dodgeville, Barneveld, and Spring Green. The Plan Commission did not identify any other medical facilities available to Town residents.

CEMETERIES

Please refer to Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resource Element for information on local cemeteries.

CHILDCARE

The Plan Commission did not identify any licensed childcare facilities in or serving the Town of Ridgeway.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Please refer to Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resource Element for information on local parks and recreation facilities.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER UTILITIES

There are a limited number of telecommunication towers in the Town of Ridgeway.

COMMUNITY FACILITY/UTILITY PROJECTS

Currently, Ridgeway does not have any upcoming community facility/utility projects.

UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITY AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS

There are a number of state and federal agencies and programs to assist communities with public works projects. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs. Contact information is provided for each agency. To find out more specific information or which program best fits your needs contact the agency directly.

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

We offer loans, grants and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing, health care, first responder services and equipment and water, electric and communications infrastructure. We promote economic development by supporting loans to businesses through banks, credit unions and community-managed lending pools. We offer technical assistance and information to help agricultural producers and cooperatives get started and improve the effectiveness of their operations. We provide technical assistance to help communities undertake community empowerment programs.

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT
OF WISCONSIN**
5417 Clem's Way
Stevens Point, WI 54482
Phone: 715-345-7600
rd.stateoffice@wi.usda.gov
www.rd.usda.gov/wi

USDA's Rural Utilities Service administers programs that provide much-needed infrastructure or infrastructure improvements to rural communities. These include water and waste treatment, electric power and telecommunications services. All of these services play a critical role in helping to expand economic opportunities and improve the quality of life for rural residents.

USDA's Rural Business-Cooperative Service offers programs to support business development and job training opportunities for rural residents. Our programs help provide the capital, technical support, educational opportunities and entrepreneurial skills that can help rural residents start and grow businesses or access jobs in agricultural markets and in the bio-based economy. USDA and our public and private partners are connecting rural residents to the global economy by supporting business growth and development; facilitating sustainable renewable energy development; developing regional food systems; generating and retaining jobs through recreation and natural resource restoration, conservation, and management and increasing access to broadband. These investments support the nation's long-term prosperity by ensuring that rural communities are self-sustaining, repopulating and thriving economically.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES BUREAU OF COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (DNR-CFA)

The Bureau of Community Assistance administers a number of grant and loan programs. The Bureau supports projects that protect public health and the environment and provide recreational opportunities. The Bureau has three major areas of programs, which include the following:

- **ENVIRONMENTAL LOANS**
This is a subsidized loan program for drinking water, wastewater and storm water projects through the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program and Clean Water Fund Program.
- **ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS**
This is a grant program for non-point source runoff pollution, recycling, lakes, rivers, municipal flood control and well compensation.

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES (WI-DNR)**
101 South Webster Street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
Phone: 888-936-7463
dnr.wi.gov

- **LAND & RECREATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS**

This is a grant program for conservation, restoration, parks, stewardship, acquisition of land and easements for conservation purposes, recreational facilities and trails, hunter education, forestry, forest fire protection, household hazardous waste collection, dam rehabilitation and abandonment, dry cleaner remediation and urban wildlife damage.

These are major program headings. There are numerous programs available for specific projects underneath these umbrella programs. For more detailed information on other programs, visit the DNR website and search for the keywords "Grants and Loans".

Grants are monetary awards that do not have to be paid back.

**DIVISION OF ENERGY, HOUSING, AND COMMUNITY
RESOURCES BUREAU OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PUBLIC FACILITIES (CDBG-PF)**

This program is designed to assist small communities with public facility improvements. Eligible activities would include publicly owned utility system improvements, streets, sidewalks, disability accessibility projects, and community centers. Local governments including towns, cities, and counties are eligible. Federal grant funds are made available on an annual basis. The maximum grant for any single applicant is \$500,000. Grants are only available up to the amount that is adequately justified and documented with engineering or vendor estimates.

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION DIVISION OF
ENERGY, HOUSING, AND COMMUNITY
RESOURCES BUREAU OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
101 East Wilson Street
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 608-261-7538
doa.wi.gov/Pages/LocalGovtsGrants/CDBGPublicFacilitiesEconomicDevelopmentProgram.aspx**

**WISCONSIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PUBLIC FACILITIES
(CDBG-PFED)**

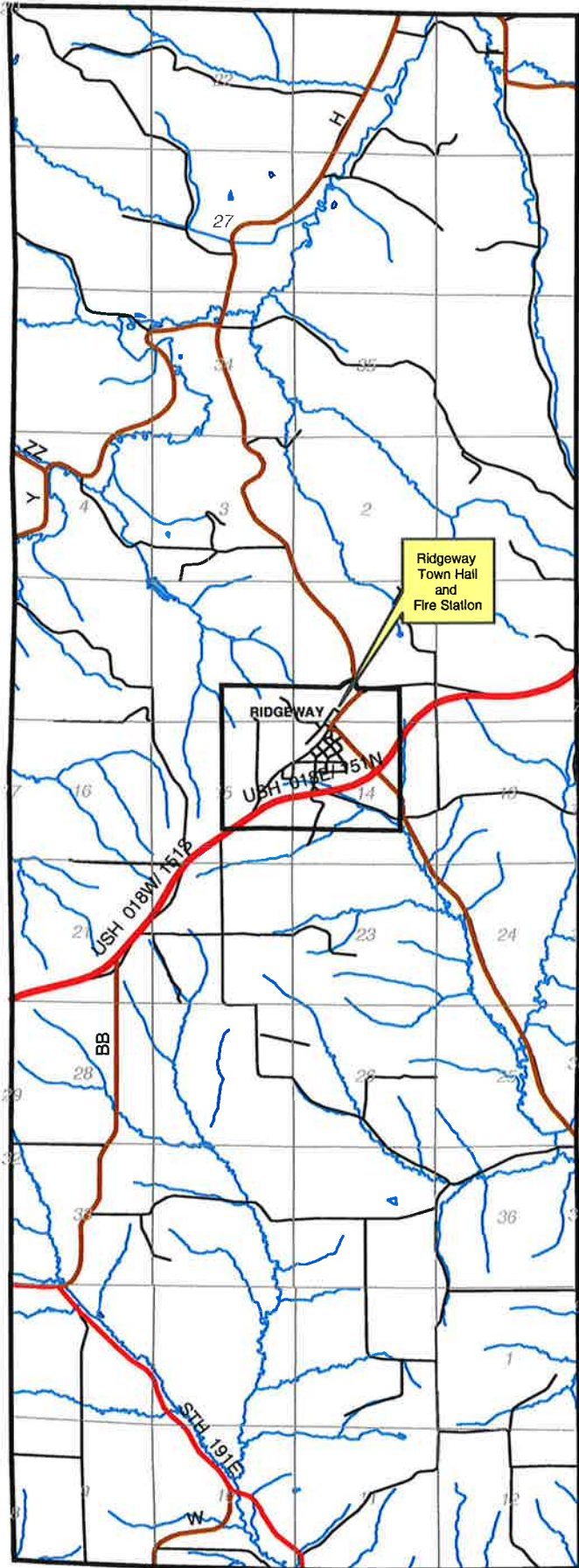
This program helps underwrite the cost of municipal infrastructure necessary for business development. This program requires that the result of the project will ultimately induce businesses, create jobs, and invest in the community. More information is available from the Wisconsin Department of Administration.

UTILITIES AND FACILITIES

MAP D.1

TOWN OF RIDGEWAY

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -



1 inch equals 1.14 miles



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

November 17, 2003
Ridgeway Town Util-Fac Map D-1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the Town of Ridgeway continues to grow, it is vital that it keep in mind the agricultural, natural, and cultural resources of the area. It can be very challenging for rural communities to allow new low-density development and at the same time protect the natural environment and preserve the character of the area, including cultural and historic resources. At first, development may have only a limited impact on the natural landscape, but as development continues, the visual and environmental impacts become more and more apparent. For these reasons, it is crucial to be aware of the existing agricultural, natural, and cultural resources.

There are a number of agricultural, natural, and cultural resources to be aware of as we plan for the future, including the following:

Agricultural Resources

- Number of Farms
- Acreage of Farmland
- Livestock
- Crop Production
- Farmland Potential
- Soil Capabilities
- Soils

Natural Resources

- Water Resources
- Topography
- Geologic Resources
- Forest/Woodlands
- Wildlife Habitat
- Parks and Open Space
- Air and Light

Cultural Resources

- Historic Buildings
- Museums
- Landmarks
- Churches
- Rural Schools
- Cemeteries



Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(e)

(e) Agricultural, natural and cultural resources element. A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for the conservation, and promotion of the effective management, of natural resources such as groundwater, forests, productive agricultural areas, environmentally sensitive areas, threatened and endangered species, stream corridors, surface water, floodplains, wetlands, wildlife habitat, metallic and nonmetallic mineral resources consistent with zoning limitations under s. 295.20 (2), parks, open spaces, historical and cultural resources, community design, recreational resources and other natural resources.

AGRICULTURAL, NATURAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES POLICIES

The following are the agricultural, natural, and cultural resources policies for the Town of Ridgeway. (Parcel splits and minimum lot sizes are addressed in Section H, Land Use Element.)

- **Routinely remind residents of the importance of their agricultural, natural, and cultural resources and the need for continued protection of local open spaces to provide recreational opportunities.**

Tell residents about the agricultural, cultural, and natural resources in their Town and let them know ways they can support and protect them. Flyers included with a tax mailing, articles in the local newspaper, workshops, or other similar education efforts can help inform residents.

Work with the Village of Ridgeway, the Towns of Brigham, Waldwick, Arena, and Dodgeville and Iowa County to protect contiguous natural areas that give local residents space to pursue recreational opportunities.

- **Build partnerships with local clubs and organizations in order to protect important natural areas.**

Work with local chapters of groups like Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Trout Unlimited, and local sportsman's clubs that all have a common interest of protecting the environment. Cooperation can reduce duplication of effort and in turn cut costs.

- **Encourage and support prairie and savanna restoration.**

- **Enforce noxious weed control ordinances.**

At both the national and state level, concern is growing about non-native species that threaten the stability of native or more desirable plant communities. In order to protect the agricultural and natural resources of Iowa County from invasive, noxious weeds, local ordinances designed for the mutual benefit of citizens and the environment should emphasize education, prevention and cooperation between landowners and governmental agencies.

- **Support tree preservation and sustainable forestry practices.**

Trees are important components of a community's green infrastructure. A healthy population of trees offers substantial environmental benefits, including cleaner air and water, quieter streets, cheaper energy bills, cooler temperatures, and wildlife habitat. In addition, trees can provide numerous economic advantages, such as increased property values and lower air and water remediation costs.

- **Maintain proper separation distances between urban and rural land uses to avoid conflicts.**

It is important to maintain separation distances between urban and rural land uses, as issues often arise such as neighbors complaining about noises, smells, chemical sprays, and farm machinery on the roadways.

- **Identify recharge areas for local wells and inventory potential contaminant sources.**

Contamination of local drinking water resources can be devastating and very costly to reverse. Be aware of recharge area locations for wells and potential contamination sources. Again, education of residents on local water resource issues may be beneficial.

- **Restrict development from major drainage areas in order to aid in storm water runoff and prevent flooding.**

Refrain from developing drainage ways and floodplains that serve as storm water runoff systems. Drainage basins were established naturally for a reason and should be preserved.

- **Promote tourism opportunities and continue to pursue efforts to capitalize on local resources in conjunction with programs like walking tours, the Wisconsin Historical Markers Program, Pine Relict State Natural Area, distributing ATV or bike trail maps, maintaining trails, and preserving the natural beauty of the area.**

Every jurisdiction is unique and can capitalize on its historic or cultural significance and natural beauty. For example, tours can be walking, driving, or biking with certain areas of cultural or environmental significance identified.

- **Utilize County, State, and Federal programs to conserve, maintain, and protect agricultural, natural, and cultural resources.**

Numerous state and federal programs aim specifically at protecting farmland, wetlands, forests, historic buildings, etc. There are agencies and contact information at the end of this section.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

Agriculture plays an important role in the past and future of southwestern Wisconsin. Even though this plan is developed for the Town of Ridgeway, the importance of agricultural resources in the surrounding area should not be underestimated. Farming is important aesthetically, culturally, economically, and recreationally to the Town of Ridgeway.

FARMING CONFLICTS

The Plan Commission did not identify any conflicts between farm operations and non-farm neighbors.

FARM EXPANSION

As farming becomes more global, the forces driving agricultural change are reflected in the decline of traditional agricultural commodities. One strategy farmers have begun to follow is farm expansion and modernization. Expanding can help farmers maintain their net income and can sometimes also lead to efficiencies and lower production costs. Modernization strategies can also help improve farming operations. However, expansion and modernization bring with them possibilities of greater impacts to the local environment, as well as issues such as modernized farms needing fewer employees, resulting in local agricultural job losses. Larger operations may also require larger manure handling facilities, increasing the chances of more spills or odor complaints. The Town of Ridgeway believes that size limits should be placed on farms in the Town. In particular, the Plan Commission wants to limit factory type farms or large confinement operations that will contribute to air and/or water pollution.

YOUNG FARMERS

One challenge facing farming in southwest Wisconsin is the lack of young people to replace a generation of older farmers. While farmers are retiring at the same rate, fewer young people are getting into farming. Communities seeking to retain their local agricultural economy and way of life need to consider strategies that will bring new or young people into farming. The Plan Commission believes that better prices for farm products would bring young people back to production agriculture.

FARMING INFRASTRUCTURE

Farming infrastructure includes businesses and services such as a feed mill, equipment vendor, or veterinarian might supply. Farm supply businesses and food processing facilities represent important resources to area farmers as well as the broader local economy; the Town of Ridgeway does not have any farming infrastructure.

FARM TYPES

The Town of Ridgeway Plan Commission believes multi-enterprise (e.g. beef, dairy, and crops) should be encouraged, rather than single enterprise farms (e.g. only dairy, only soybeans). Specifically, the Plan Commission encourages the following types of farm operations:

- Dairy Operations
- Organic Farming
- Beef-Cow/Calf Operations
- Cash Crop Operations
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

The Plan Commission does not encourage hog, sheep, dairy, or beef-finishing farming operations of over 500 animal units within the Town of Ridgeway.

FARMING AND COMMUNITY VISION

It is essential to the Town of Ridgeway's community vision to maintain both current farm operations and agriculture in general.

FARMLAND POTENTIAL

In Iowa County, 72 percent of the soils are classified as prime, state, and local importance. Map E.1 is a Town level soil classification map. The classifications are

Prime Farmland - Most Capability Group I and II Soils (25 percent of soils in Iowa County)

State Importance - Most Capability Group III Soils (20 percent of soils in Iowa County)

Local Importance - Varies but in Southwestern Wisconsin some Capability Group IV, V, and VI Soils. In Iowa County these include land with better moisture holding capacity – valuable locally for pasture and hay production. (27 percent of soils in Iowa County)

Other - Soil groups of importance (Capability Group VII, VIII) not noted in the categories above.

LAND COVER

Map E.2 shows the amount of agricultural resources in the Town of Ridgeway. It also shows the location of natural resources, including forested lands, open water, and wetlands.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural resources are the essence of the natural environment. Whether obvious or not, impacts to sensitive environmental communities and resources often have significant adverse impacts on the human community.

WATER RESOURCES

Water is one of the most commonly used natural resources, serving an intrinsic function in the community. People utilize groundwater for drinking water, industrial uses, recreational purposes, etc. on a daily basis. Plants and animals rely on water to survive. Water is also one of the most easily contaminated resources. Because of its mobile nature, contaminants can travel far from their source through the ever-moving water cycle. This type of pervasive pollution is commonly known as non-point source pollution (NPSP).

Non-point source pollution comes from many diffuse sources resulting from a wide variety of human activities. NPSP directly impacts water resources. The Town of Ridgeway actively protects its water resources by recommending catch basins, Ag contour strips, and the creation of small dams, with all construction done according to state regulations.

SURFACE WATER

Watercourses and water bodies provide various recreational opportunities, including fishing, swimming, boating, and passive recreational opportunities such as bird watching. Streams provide habitat for aquatic species and other wildlife. The Wisconsin and Pecatonica Rivers and nearby lakes and streams serve recreational needs of area residents. See Map E.3 for surface water resources in the Town of Ridgeway and Map E.4 for Town watersheds. Ridgeway is in two watersheds, the Mill and Blue Mounds Creeks and the Upper East Branch of the Pecatonica River watersheds.

FLOODPLAINS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has designated flood hazard areas along many surface water resources. The importance of respecting floodways and floodplains is critical in terms of planning and development. Ignoring these constraints can cause serious problems relating to property damage and the overall safety of residents. Due to Iowa County being entirely within the Driftless Area, the flood plains are largely the result of a well-developed dendritic (tree branch-like) drainage pattern draining the fairly rugged topography. This, together with low infiltration rates for most of its soils, combines to make overall flood risk in Iowa County quite high, as is true in the Town of Ridgeway. In order to lower flood risk, the Town does not allow building in floodplains, roadway ditches are maintained and culverts are used when necessary. See Map E.5 for the FEMA map.

WETLANDS

Wetlands serve a variety of functions, including playing an important role in storm water management and flood control, filtering pollutants, recharging groundwater, providing a habitat for many wildlife species and plants, and offering open space and passive recreational opportunities. Iowa County wetlands include all marshes and swamps and those areas excluded from cultivation or other use because they are intermittently wet. The steep topography of southwest Wisconsin results in most natural wetlands being closely linked to the region's rivers and streams.

The Wisconsin Wetland Inventory (WWI) was completed for the state in 1985. Pre-European settlement wetland figures estimate the state had about 10 million acres of wetlands. Based on aerial photography from 1978-79, the WWI shows approximately 5.3 million acres of wetlands remaining in the state representing a loss of about 47% of original wetland acreage. This figure does not include wetlands less than 2 or 5 acres in size (minimum mapping unit varies by county). Because the original WWI utilized aerial photographs taken in the summer, some wetlands were missed, especially in the northern counties since interpretation was difficult due to leaf cover. Also, wetlands that were farmed as of the date of photography used and then later abandoned due to wet conditions were not captured as part of the WWI. Most wetland losses in Iowa County have likely been due to draining for farming.

The Legislature authorized the DNR to update the WWI on a 10-year cycle. Budget constraints and lack of staff have slowed this process to a 24-year cycle at best. Digitizing wetland maps to obtain accurate wetland acreage information is on a rotation almost twice that long. As a result, there is no reliable qualitative and quantitative data about current rates of wetland loss. For more information, go to dnr.wi.gov/topic/wetlands.

Ridgeway protects wetland resources by regulating all new driveways to maintain a maximum grade of 10 percent. Road right-of-ways are ditched and controlled for runoff with culverts and vegetated buffers.

GROUNDWATER

Groundwater is a critical resource, not only because it is used on a daily basis, but also because rivers, streams, and other surface water depends on groundwater for recharge. Groundwater, whether from municipal or private well, supplies all Iowa County residents with drinking water. See Map E.6 for depth to groundwater levels for Ridgeway.

Groundwater can easily become contaminated through non-point source pollution. The Driftless Area is characterized by thin soils over fractured limestone, sandstone, or shale bedrock and it is in this type of underlying geology where the potential for groundwater contamination is greatest. The Town only has individual wells and the Plan Commission does not wish to create wellhead protection plans for private wells. The jurisdiction as a whole actively protects its drinking water through policies restricting large feedlots.

Water supply is impacted as communities grow, bringing increased demand to supply groundwater to new homes, businesses, and industries. Increased well pumping can reduce the amount of recharge to surface waters, causing streamflow reduction, loss of springs, and changes in wetland vegetative communities. However, the establishment of a high capacity well in the Town might impact water supply. The Groundwater Bill (2003 Act 310) addresses groundwater quantity issues, requiring approval for siting, fees, and an environmental review. While this legislation is currently more relevant in areas of the state experiencing severe water quantity issues (e.g. the Central Sands region), the principle of controlling groundwater withdrawal in all parts of the state is quite important.

Currently, increasing water supply demand is not an issue in the Town of Ridgeway.

It is important to keep the groundwater resource in mind for many areas of comprehensive planning. Ultimately, what takes place above ground directly impacts this resource below the surface. There are a number of activities that directly impact the quality of water resources.

Potential pollution sources that can affect the groundwater supply include but are not limited to:

- On-site septic systems
- Sewage Treatment Plants
- Surface Waste Water Discharge
- Sanitary Landfills
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Feedlots
- Junkyards
- Abandoned Quarries
- Abandoned Wells
- Pesticide and Fertilizer Applications
- Road Salt
- Household Cleaners & Detergents
- Unsewered Subdivisions
- Gas Stations
- Chemical Spills
- Leaking Sewer Lines
- Old Mine Openings or Shafts

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES

Wildlife enriches our lives by providing opportunities for observing or photographing animals in their native habitat. Wildlife serves as an educational stimulus by provoking human curiosity about the natural world.

Habitat is the combination of food, water, shelter, and space necessary to meet the needs of wildlife.

Humans have an environmental responsibility to protect wildlife and the habitat it needs to survive. Since wildlife can cause problems by destroying property, carrying disease, producing unsanitary waste, and conflicting with human activities, it is important to provide natural habitat at a distance from human activities where animals will not be in contact with humans and can live and breed without interference.

Savannas, grasslands with a partial canopy of open grown trees, and ridge tops are home to a wide array of wildlife, particularly birds. Savanna, grassy ridge tops, and forest historically covered the hills of southwest Wisconsin. Today, savannas and grassy ridge tops are rare. Descriptions of natural communities in Iowa County are listed in Appendix E-1. Ridgeway is within two ecological landscapes, Southwest Savanna and Western Coulee and Ridge.

To protect its natural areas, the Town of Ridgeway utilizes its Land Use Plan that states that all plans for development in or adjacent to important natural features must be carefully reviewed by the Land Use Commission and Town Board to ensure that existing natural features are preserved whenever possible. The Land Use Plan and the Land Use Commission were created for the purpose of both actively supporting agriculture and preserving wildlife habitat. See Section H, Land Use Element Policies for more information.

The Town does not give financial support to wildlife protection and conservation, but the preservation and maintenance of areas needed to support wildlife shall be encouraged. The Plan Commission has also expressed an interest in learning more about supporting prairie and savanna restoration efforts and groups.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 was enacted to conserve threatened and endangered species of wildlife and plants. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has used the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) to develop maps for all counties in the state providing generalized information about rare, threatened and endangered species. Threatened and Endangered plant species are vulnerable to a variety of exotic, invasive plants, such as Bull Thistle and Wild Parsnip. Ridgeway enforces its public nuisance ordinance that specifically addresses noxious weeds, noxious odors, stagnant water areas, and well pollution areas. DNR-NHI maps (Map E.7a and E.7b) have been included at the end of this section for a reference. Also, refer to Appendix E-2 for a list of the Threatened and Endangered plant, animal, and natural communities of the Town of Ridgeway, as prepared in 2002 for the original comprehensive plan.

FOREST RESOURCES

Forests provide raw materials for the forest products industry and a venue for hunting, hiking, and fishing. They help sustain water resources and provide habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals, including threatened and endangered species. They also help balance global warming effects through oxygen production and carbon sequestration. Over half the forested lands in Wisconsin (57%) are privately owned. See Map E.2 for forested lands in Ridgeway.

RURAL FORESTS

Forty-six percent of Wisconsin is forested (16 million acres). Forests therefore represent one of Wisconsin's most important land uses and are often times a defining feature of communities or whole regions. Other benefits of forests include:

- Recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, and hiking
- Groundwater protection
- Home for wide variety of plants and animals, including Threatened and Endangered species
- Cleans air by producing oxygen and storing carbon
- Part of Wisconsin's culture

With a stated objective to protect woodlands, the Town of Ridgeway has 4,554.664 acres in the Forest Crop Managed Forest Law program. The Plan Commission expressed interested in learning more about other sustainable forestry practices as well.

There are no municipal tree-planting programs in place in the Town of Ridgeway, nor is the Plan Commission interested in such programs. However, the Plan Commission does encourage tree planting north of Highway 18/151 within the Town of Ridgeway.

URBAN FORESTS

One natural resource often forgotten is the urban forest. The urban forest does not necessarily only relate to trees, but also includes shrubs, flowers, vines, ground cover, grass, and other plants within an urban area.

The Town does not have any Urban Forest.

ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

Environmental corridors refer to areas that contain groupings of natural resource features. Areas of concentrated natural resource activity ("rooms"), such as wetlands, woodlands, prairies, lakes, and other features, become even more functional when linked by environmental corridors ("hallways"). If corridor resource features are placed on a map, they can show a linear space.

Fish and wildlife populations, native plant distribution, and even clean water all depend on movement through environmental corridors. For example, wildlife populations isolated in one wooded location can overpopulate, die out, or cause problems for neighbors if there are not adequate corridors to allow the population to move about freely. Over 70 percent of all terrestrial wildlife species use riparian corridors, according to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Environmental Corridor Benefits:

- Reduced Flooding
- Reduced Soil Erosion
- Improved Water Quality
- Improved Water Quantity
- Groundwater Recharge
- Bank Stabilization
- Improved Air Quality
- Improved Wildlife Habitat

Social Benefits:

- Walking and Hiking
- Cross Country Skiing
- Horseback Riding
- Photography
- Wildlife Viewing

Map E.8 shows several natural resource features in Ridgeway, which can act as environmental corridors. Preserving environmental corridors can be a highly effective way to protect natural and cultural resources in an area.

AIR AND LIGHT

The Plan Commission did not identify air pollution as an issue at this time. However, in the 2016 Land Use Survey, many respondents favored restricting the impact of night lighting of buildings and parking lots on adjacent properties.

GEOLOGIC AND SOIL RESOURCES

Soils and geology are also important planning considerations, particularly when thinking about new development. Today, technological advances can overcome many development challenges relating to soil and geology; however, it is important that these resources are not abused, overused, or contaminated. Particular attention must be paid to soils when development is occurring on steeper slopes and for septic systems. Drain-fields must be located to allow adequate infiltration and the sewage treatment provided by soils. A series of maps including slope limitations (Map E.9), septic limitations (Map E.10), and depth to bedrock (Map E.11) have been included.

Southwest Wisconsin is part of the unglaciated region known as the Driftless Area. Most of the bedrock in this region is sedimentary rock, consisting of sandstone and shale or limestone, containing mineral resources. Mineral resources are divided into two categories, metallic and non-metallic. Metallic resources in the region include lead and zinc. Non-metallic resources include sand, gravel, and limestone, with limestone as one of the most significant geologic resources in the area, used frequently for road building. Refer to Map E-12 for a map showing mines and quarries in Iowa County.

Restricting access to abandoned mines or quarries helps protect these areas from becoming source points for groundwater contamination.

There is an active quarry in Ridgeway that is fenced and gated, restricting access. There are no mine pits or diggings in the jurisdiction.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Open space serves many important functions. It protects ecologically sensitive areas including wetlands and water resources, important wildlife habitat, and sensitive soils. Open space plays an important role in shaping the character of the community, as nothing can replace the visual impact of vast open space, whether it is agricultural land or woodlands. Preserving open spaces not only directly protects resources, but the space becomes a vital buffer zone. Open space can take the form of parks, cropland and pastures, greenbelts, wetlands or floodplains. Open space can also serve many functions for a community other than recreation, such as the following:

- Flood management
- Preserving prime agricultural land
- Limiting development that may occur
- Buffering incompatible land uses
- Structuring the community environment

LOCAL PARK AND RECREATION RESOURCES

Parks can serve a limited neighborhood area, a portion of the community, or the entire community or region and provide area and facilities for outdoor recreation for residents and visitors.

The Town of Ridgeway offers a variety of recreational amenities to recreational users and visitors including:

- Snowmobile trails
- Bike trails
- Campgrounds
- Hyde Mill and Dam that attracts many tourists
- DNR land that is open to hunters and bird watchers
- Many fishing streams
- Folklore Village that attracts thousands of tourists and classes

Ridgeway is also near Blue Mounds and Governor Dodge State Parks, and the Ridgeway Pine Relict State Natural Area. Refer to Map E.13 for Iowa County parks.

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

Many communities often ignore cultural and historic resources in order to deal with "real" issues facing their community. However, the proper appreciation of these assets is vital to the long-term success of a community. Respecting and utilizing these available resources increases the overall quality of life and provides opportunities for tourism.

Determining what are cultural and historic resources has been left open to some interpretation. For the purpose of this report, historic resources include historic buildings and sites (as identified by the national register of historic places), museums, churches, cemeteries, old country schools, and other buildings deemed appropriate by the community. The information presented here is to serve as a guide to cultural and historic resources but is not inclusive.

HISTORIC PLACES

Ridgeway has two sites listed on the State and/or National Register of Historic Places. Refer to Map E.14 for historic places in the Town of Ridgeway.

Table E.1- National Register of Historic Places

Name and Type of Place	Location	Date Added to State Register	Date Added to National Register
Plum Grove Primitive Methodist Church	County Rd BB	1/20/1995	4/27/1995
Hyde Chapel	County Hwy T	1/1/1989	10/13/1988

CHURCHES

Churches have had a significant impact on the culture of the Town of Ridgeway area. Refer to Map E.15 for churches in Ridgeway.

Places of worship in the Town include:

- Hyde Chapel – Nondenominational Association
- Plum Grove Primitive Methodist Church (moved to Folklore; may not be active church/no services)
-

CEMETERIES

Also identified as a prominent historic and cultural resource are the area cemeteries. Cemeteries can provide an historic perspective of the area, giving names and ethnicities of previous residents. Refer to Map E.15 for cemeteries in the Town of Ridgeway.

The following cemeteries serve the Town of Ridgeway:

- Hyde
- Ebenezer – Eastside
- St. Bridget’s
- Ruggles
- Hickox – Ridgeway Village

RURAL SCHOOL BUILDINGS

The old time, one room schoolhouse once dotted the landscape, providing public education for mainly rural communities. Over time, these buildings were utilized less and less, as larger, more centrally located schools were built and students were bused in from the country. Nevertheless, the one room schoolhouse remains an icon of American rural culture, representing the opportunity for all children to learn “the three R’s”: reading, ‘riting, and ‘rithmetic. Refer to Map E.14 for rural school buildings in the Town of Ridgeway.

The following rural school buildings (some of which have been converted to other uses) are in the Town of Ridgeway:

- Wakefield
- Blue Grass Valley
- Ruggles
- Yagers Corner
- Pikes Peak
- Weier

OTHER HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND SITES IN THE TOWN OF RIDGEWAY

The Plan Commission identified three other historic sites in the Town. Refer to Map E.14 for other historic buildings and sites in Ridgeway.

- Folklore Village (County B) – Folk Art Center
- Hyde Blacksmith Shop (County H) – Being reconstructed
- Ruggles Farm (County H) – Old stagecoach stop

CULTURAL RESOURCE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The Town of Ridgeway supports the Hyde Blacksmith shop restoration, the Ridgeway Pines Area, and the Folklore Village Folk Art Festival.

Ridgeway’s most important cultural resources and the threats to them are listed on Table E.2.

RESPONSE TO THREATS TO CULTURAL RESOURCES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Table E.2 – Cultural Resources Most Important to Your Community

Cultural Resource	Threats
Hyde Mill	Neglect

The Town of Ridgeway established the Hyde Historical Preservation Committee to address the preservation of Hyde Mill.

ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

About 10,000 years ago, **Paleo-Indians** entered Wisconsin as they hunted woolly mammoth, mastodon, and bison. These large mammals lived on the abundant vegetation beginning to grow as the glaciers retreated northward.

Around 8,000 years ago, during the **Archaic Period**, the climate became warmer and dryer. Animals found in the state today replaced the large Ice Age mammals. People lived in smaller family groups in caves, rock shelters, along rivers, and around lakes and wetlands. They harvested wild plants, nuts, and acorns. They hunted animals such as deer and elk.

About 3,000 years ago, during the **Woodland Period**, people lived in large villages and began to use bows and arrows to hunt. It was during this period that many mounds, including effigies or mounds built in the shape of turtles, birds, bears and other animals, were built throughout Wisconsin. These people were Wisconsin's first potters and gardeners.

The **Mississippian Period** began about 1,000 years ago. In Wisconsin these people are called **Oneota**. They lived in villages and planted gardens to grow crops such as corn, beans, and squash. They had a complex trade network that extended to both the Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

Jean Nicolet, a French explorer, arrived in Wisconsin in 1634. At that time, the Indian tribes present in the state included the Ho Chunk (Winnebago), Potawatomi, Menominee, and Ojibwa (Chippewa) Indians. This marked the beginning of the **Historic Period**.

The table below gives archeological sites documented in your community. This is not a complete list because some sites disappear due to development or agriculture and some may not yet have been reported to the State Historical Society.

Table E.3 – Archeological Sites in Your Community*

Site/Code Name	Site Type	Cultural Significance
Ley Creek	Campsite/village	Unknown Prehistoric
Ted Sawle	Workshop site, Campsite/village	Late Archaic, Late Woodland
Butteris #1	Cave/rock shelter	Unknown Prehistoric
Walnut Orchard Site	Campsite/village	Late Archaic
Hyde Campsite	Campsite/village	Late Woodland
McCutchen	Campsite/village	Middle Woodland
Parks Rock shelter	Cave/rock shelter	Late Woodland
Hyde-aka Mill Creek Church Cem.	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
St. Bridget's Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Eastside Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Unnamed Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Ruggles Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Paull Rock shelter	Campsite/village, Cave rock shelter	Woodland
Last Chance Rock shelter	Cave/rock shelter	Late Woodland
Jawbone Rock shelter	Cave/rock shelter	Unknown Prehistoric
Outlook Rock shelter	Cave/rock shelter	Woodland
Brown Rock shelter	Cave/rock shelter	Woodland
Double Chamber Rock shelter	Cave/rock shelter	Unknown Prehistoric
Biface Rock shelter	Cave/rock shelter	L. Arch., L. Wld., Mid. Wld.
Unnamed Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	
Owl Rock shelter	Rock art	Unknown Prehistoric
Fern Rock shelter	Rock art	Unknown Prehistoric
Ridge Pits	Quarry/mine	Historic Euro/American
BB Lead Pits	Quarry/mine	Historic Euro/American
Folklore Diggings	Quarry/mine	Historic Euro/American

*Due to the delicate nature of archeological sites, the Wisconsin State Historical Society does not release specific locations.

The Plan Commission identified local cultural resource contacts on Table E.4.

Table E.4 – Cultural Resource Contacts in the Town of Ridgeway

Name	Program/Affiliation	Area of Historical Expertise
Volunteer community groups to support preservation		

HISTORIC ORDINANCE

The Town of Ridgeway does not have a historic preservation ordinance.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WI-DNR)

The Department of Natural Resources is dedicated to the preservation, protection, effective management, and maintenance of Wisconsin's natural resources. It is responsible for implementing the laws of the state and, where applicable, the laws of the federal government that protect and enhance the natural resources of our state. It is the one agency charged with full responsibility for coordinating the many disciplines and programs necessary to provide a clean environment and a full range of outdoor recreational opportunities for Wisconsin citizens and visitors. The Wisconsin DNR has a number of programs available ranging from threatened and endangered species to water quality to parks and open space to wetlands.

The Bureau of Community Financial Assistance (CFA) administers grant and loan programs, under the WIDNR. Financial program staff works closely with local governments and interested groups to develop and support projects that protect public health and the environment and provide recreational opportunities.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WI-DNR)

101 South Webster St
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Phone: 888-936-7463

dnr.wi.gov

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (DATCP)

The Wisconsin Department of Trade and Consumer Protection inspects and licenses more than 100,000 businesses and individuals, analyzes millions of laboratory samples, conducts hundreds of hearings and investigations, educates businesses and consumers about best practices, adopts rules that have the force of law, and promotes Wisconsin agriculture at home and abroad.

Specifically, DATCP has two divisions that relate directly to the agriculture and natural resource section of the comprehensive plan. The Environmental Division focuses on insects, land and water, as well as plants and animals. The Agricultural Division focuses on animals, crops, agricultural resources, and land and water resources.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (DATCP)

2811 Agriculture Drive
PO Box 8911
Madison, WI 53708-8911

Phone: 608-224-5012

datcp.wi.gov

USDA NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

NRCS is committed to helping private landowners care for the land, use it productively, and excel as stewards for the future. America's working lands produce food and fiber, clear air and water, wildlife, and healthy soil. Farming can be one of the most environmentally compatible uses of land there is. NRCS is the leader in helping people make sound choices, to ensure healthy land and water. Through voluntary incentive-based programs, NRCS works directly with farmers and landowners to provide technical expertise and financial assistance to make conservation work on private lands.

The agency promotes conservation practices, everything from practices that manage excess nutrients and waste on farms, to practices that promote soil health, among a host of others, all of which are helping to protect our natural resources for the long term, while at the same time improving Wisconsin farms.

USDA NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

8030 Excelsior Drive
Suite 200
Madison, WI 53717-2906

Phone: 608-662-4422

Fax: 608-662-4430

www.nrcs.usda.gov

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

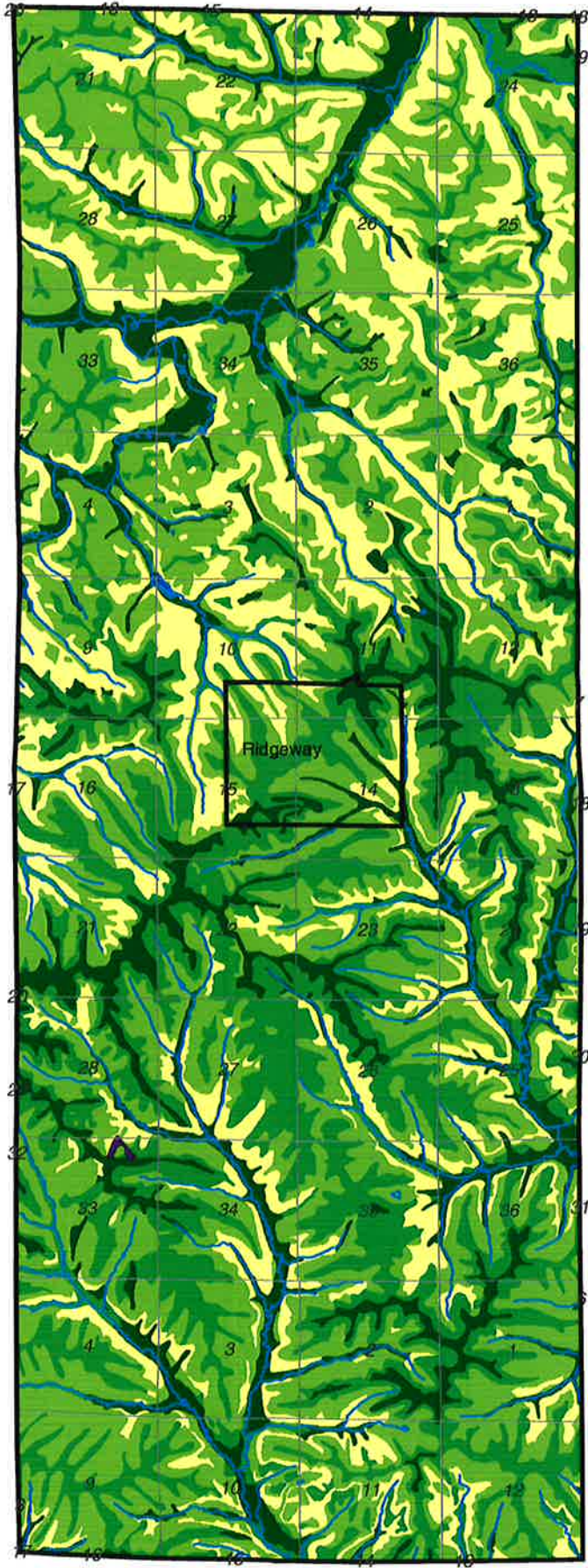
The Wisconsin Historical Society, founded in 1846, ranks as one of the largest, most active and most diversified state historical societies in the nation. As both a state agency and a private membership organization, its mission is to help people connect to the past by collecting, preserving and sharing stories. The Wisconsin Historical Society serves millions of people every year through a wide range of programs and services. The Wisconsin Historical Society also owns and operates 12 historic sites and museums around the state.

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**816 State St, Room 429B
Madison, WI 53706**

Phone: 608-264-6535

www.wisconsinhistory.org



RIDGEWAY SOIL CLASSIFICATIONS

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.1

Legend

- Prime Soils
- State Soils
- Local Soils
- Other Soils
- Rivers And Lakes
- Quarries
- Other Features

1 inch equals 1.15 miles



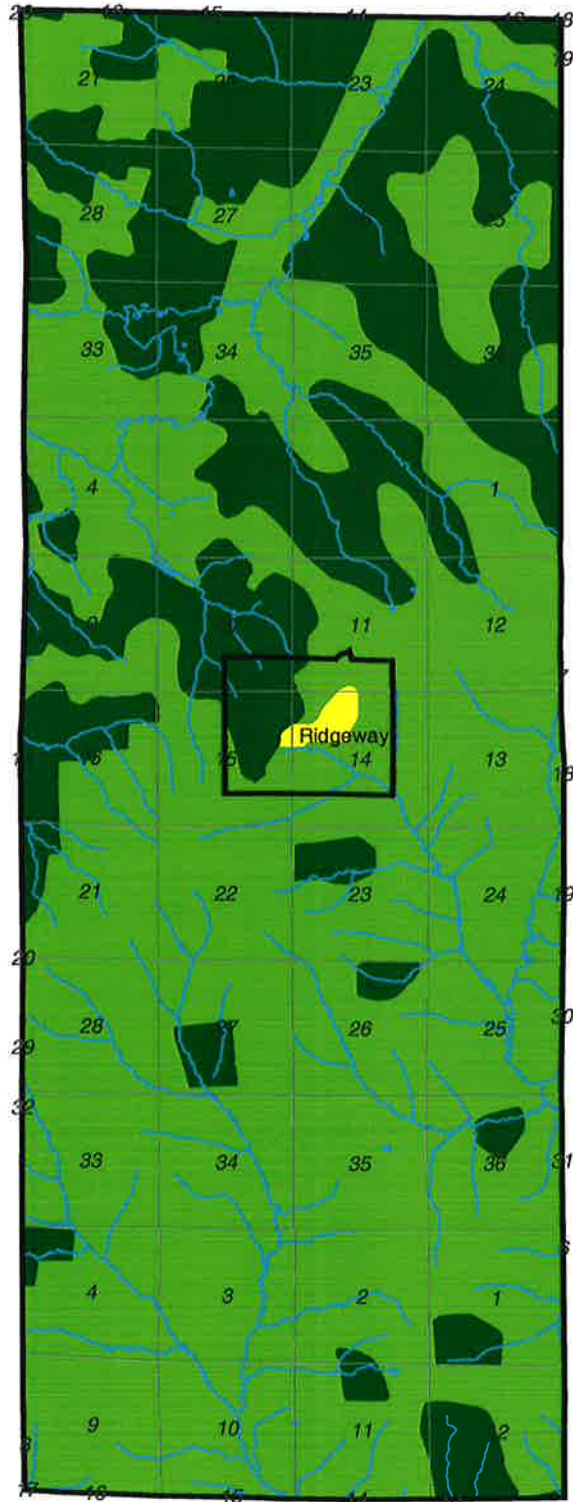
SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

July 14, 2003
Ridgeway Soil Class

TOWN OF RIDGEWAY LAND COVER

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.2



Legend

- Urban/Developed
- Agriculture
- Forest
- Open Water/Rivers
- Wetland
- Barren



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

October 21, 2003
Ridgeway Land Cover

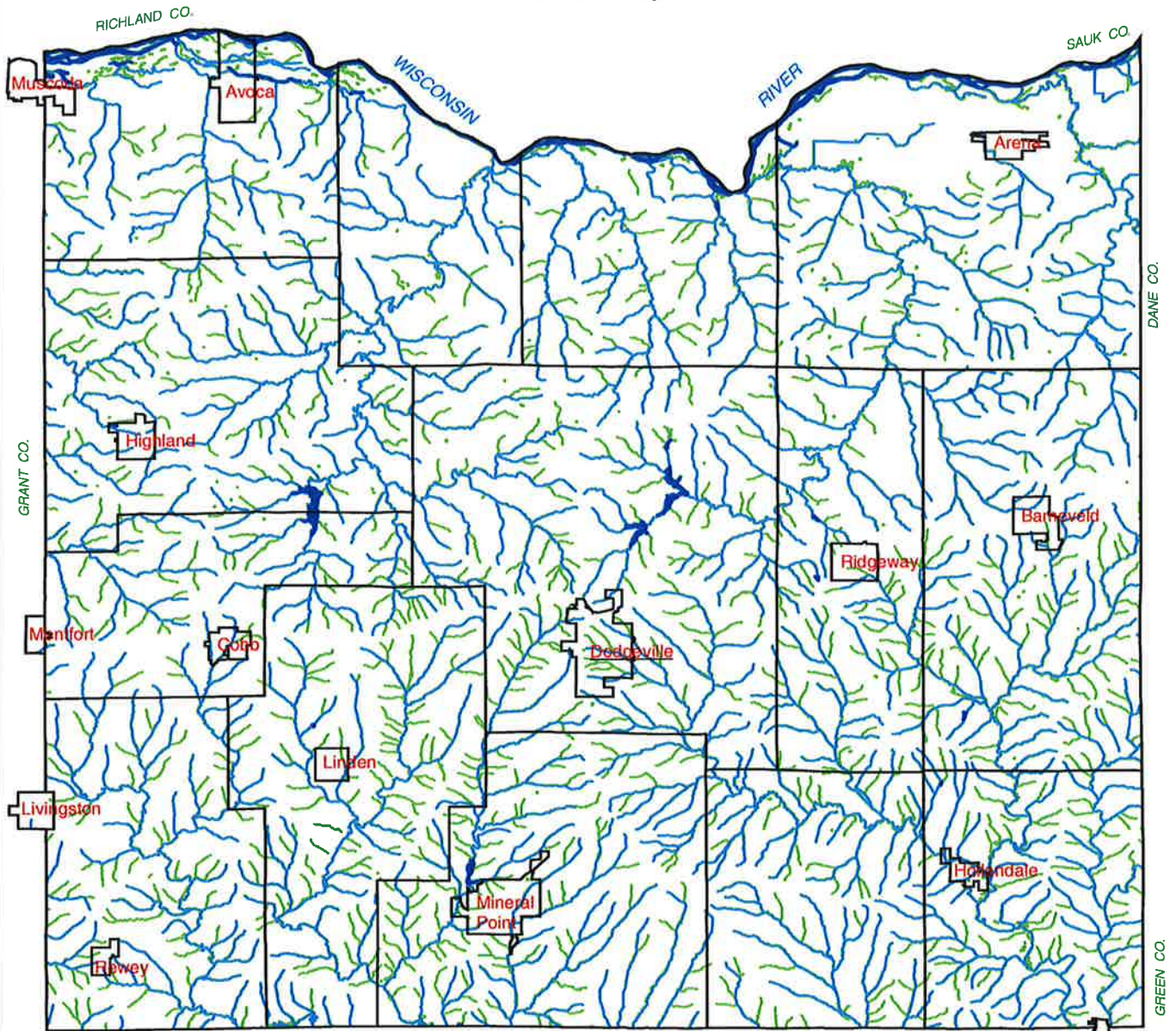


1 inch equals 1.37 miles

SURFACE WATER RESOURCES

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.3



1 inch equals 4.33 miles

LAFAYETTE CO.

Blanchardville



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53618

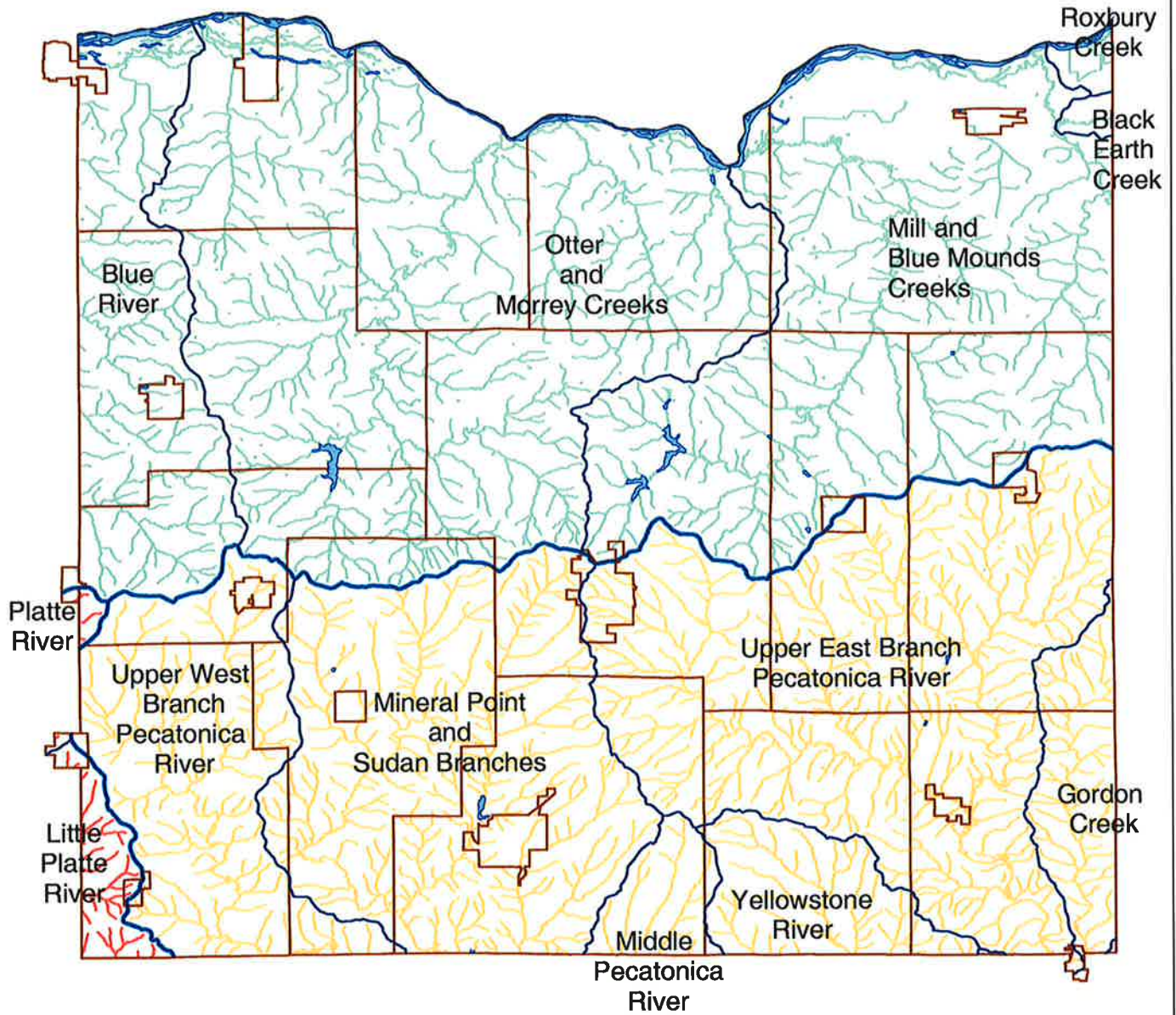
October 27, 2003
Surface Water Resources

Legend

- INTERMITTENT STREAMS
- PERENNIAL STREAMS

IOWA COUNTY RIVER BASINS AND WATERSHEDS

MAP E.4



1 Inch equals 4.54 miles



Legend

- WATER BASIN BOUNDARY
- LOWER WISCONSIN RIVER BASIN
- SUGAR - PECATONICA RIVER BASIN
- GRANT - PLATTE RIVER BASIN
- IOWA COUNTY LAKES

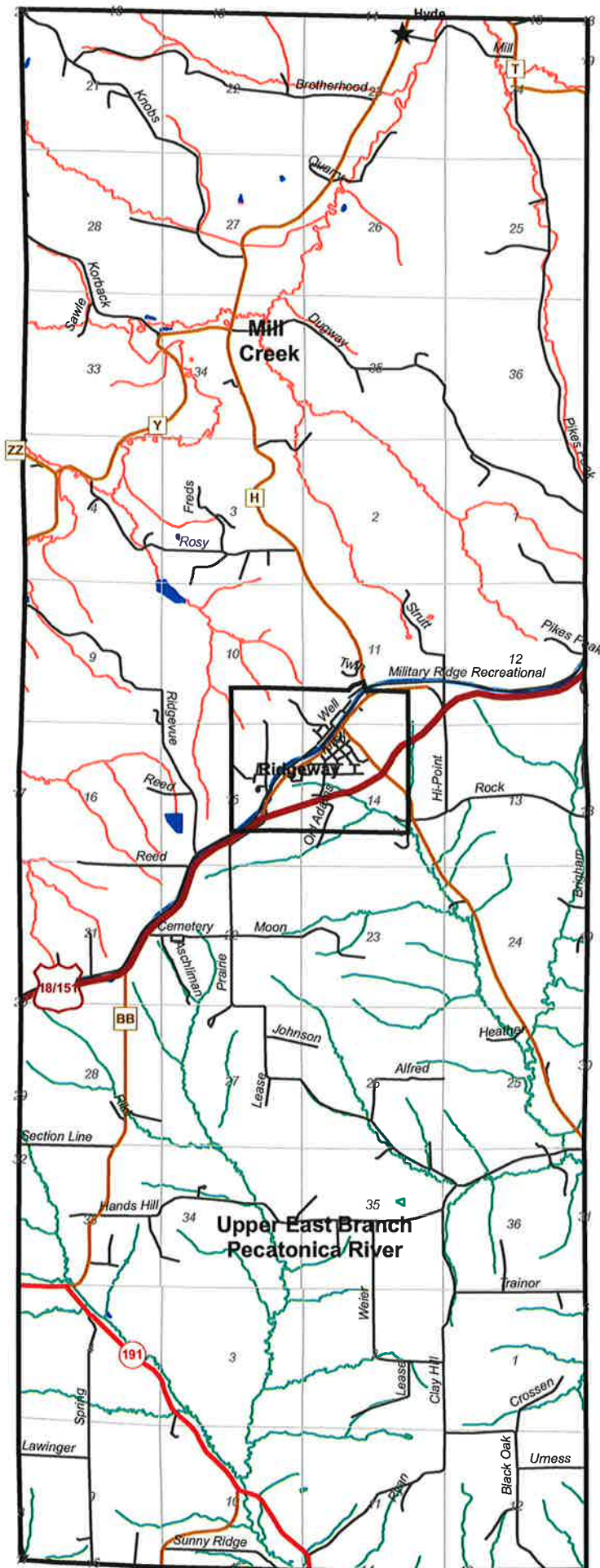


SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

August 12, 2003
IA CO BASINS-WATERSHEDS

FEMA FLOODPLAIN MAP E.5

- TOWN OF RIDGEWAY -
IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN



Legend

- Municipal Boundary
- Sections
- Unicorporated Villages
- Federal Roads
- State Roads
- County Roads
- Local Roads
- WATER BASIN BOUNDARY
- LOWER WISCONSIN RIVER BASIN
- SUGAR - PECATONICA RIVER BASIN
- IOWA COUNTY LAKES

1 inch equals 1.11 miles



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

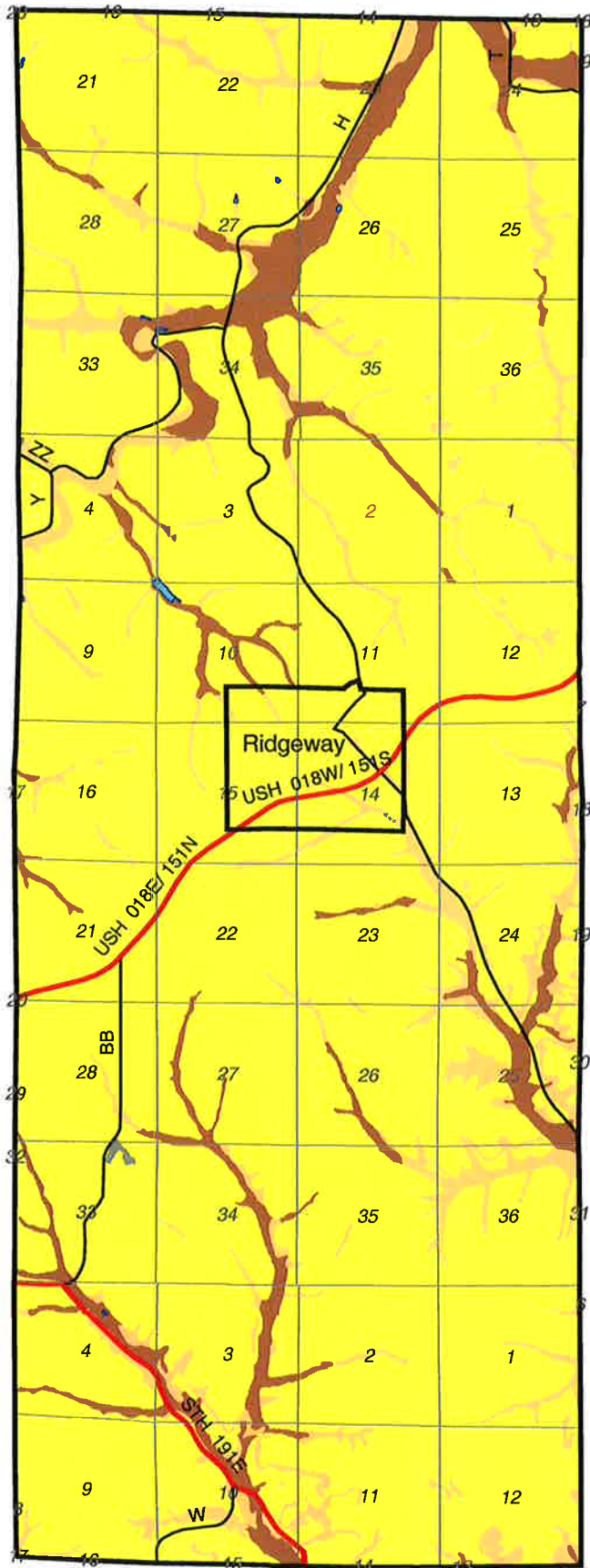
October 13, 2004
FEMA-RidgewayTown-MapE-5

This map is neither a legally recorded map
nor a technical survey and is not intended
to be one. SWWRPC is not responsible for
any inaccuracies herein contained.

TOWN OF RIDGEWAY DEPTH TO WATER TABLE

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.6



Legend

- Greater Than 20' To Water Table
- From 5' To 20' To Water Table
- Less Than 5' To Water Table
- Rivers And Lakes
- Other Features
- Major Highways USH-STH
- County Highways CTH



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

Ridgeway Depth-WT
June 2, 2003

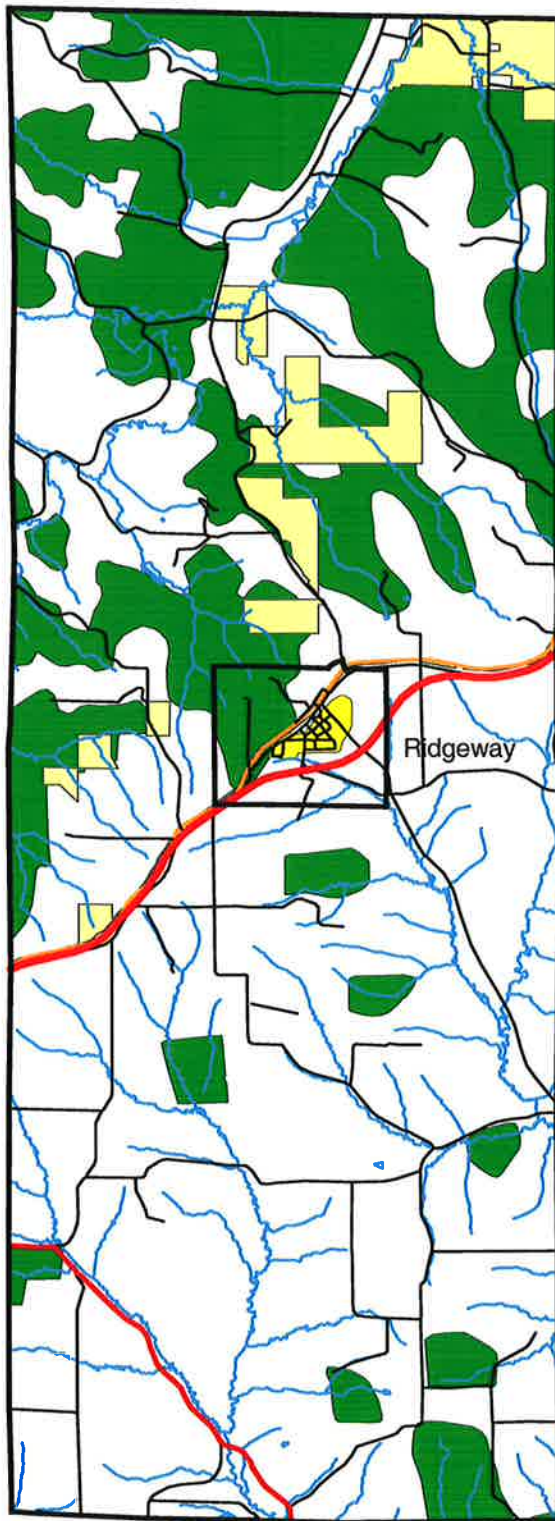
1 inch equals 1.19 miles



NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

- RIDGEWAY TOWNSHIP -
- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.8



Legend

-  Major Highways
-  Minor Roads
-  Recreation Trails
-  Rivers
-  Open Water
-  Parks
-  Urban Developed
-  Forest
-  Barren
-  Agriculture

1 inch equals 1.35 miles



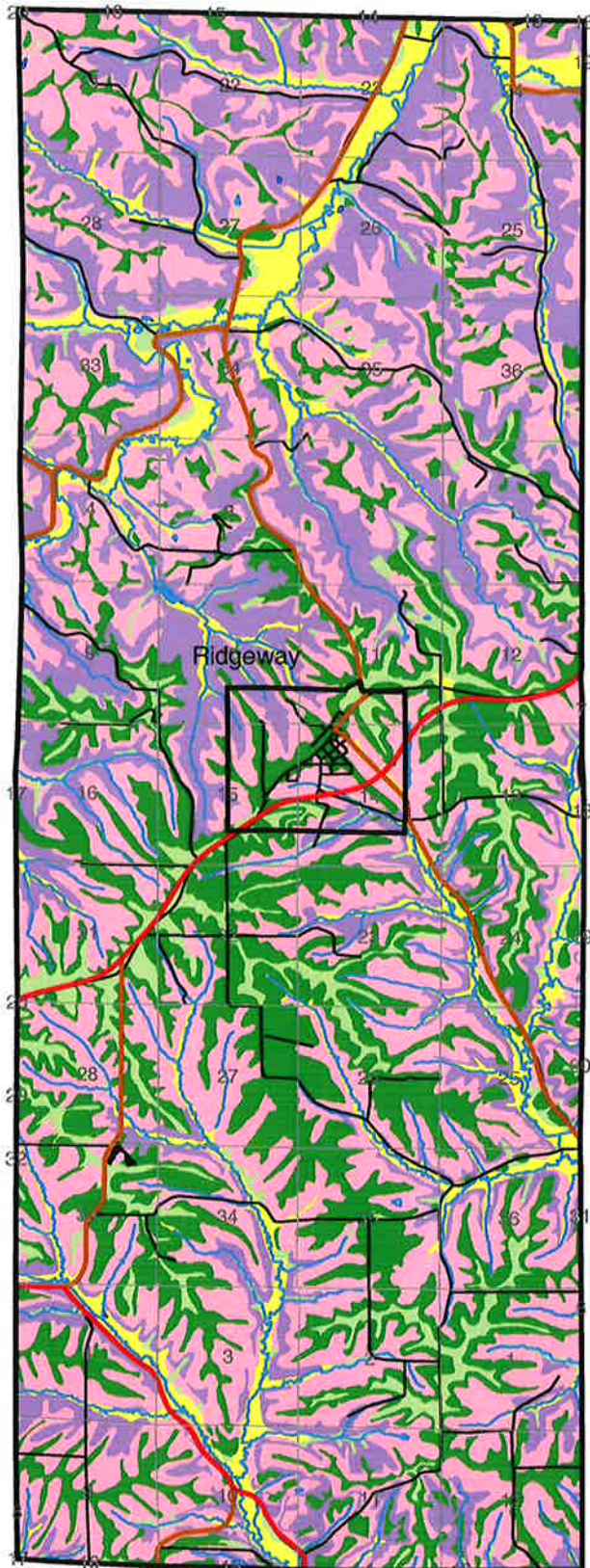
SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

October 30, 2000
Ridgeway Environmental Corridors

RIDGEWAY SLOPE LIMITATIONS

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.9



Legend

-  0% - 2% Slope
-  2% - 6% Slope
-  6% - 12% Slope
-  12% - 20% Slope
-  Greater Than 20% Slope
-  Rivers And Lakes
-  Other Features

1 inch equals 1.26 miles



July 17, 2003
Ridgeway Slope

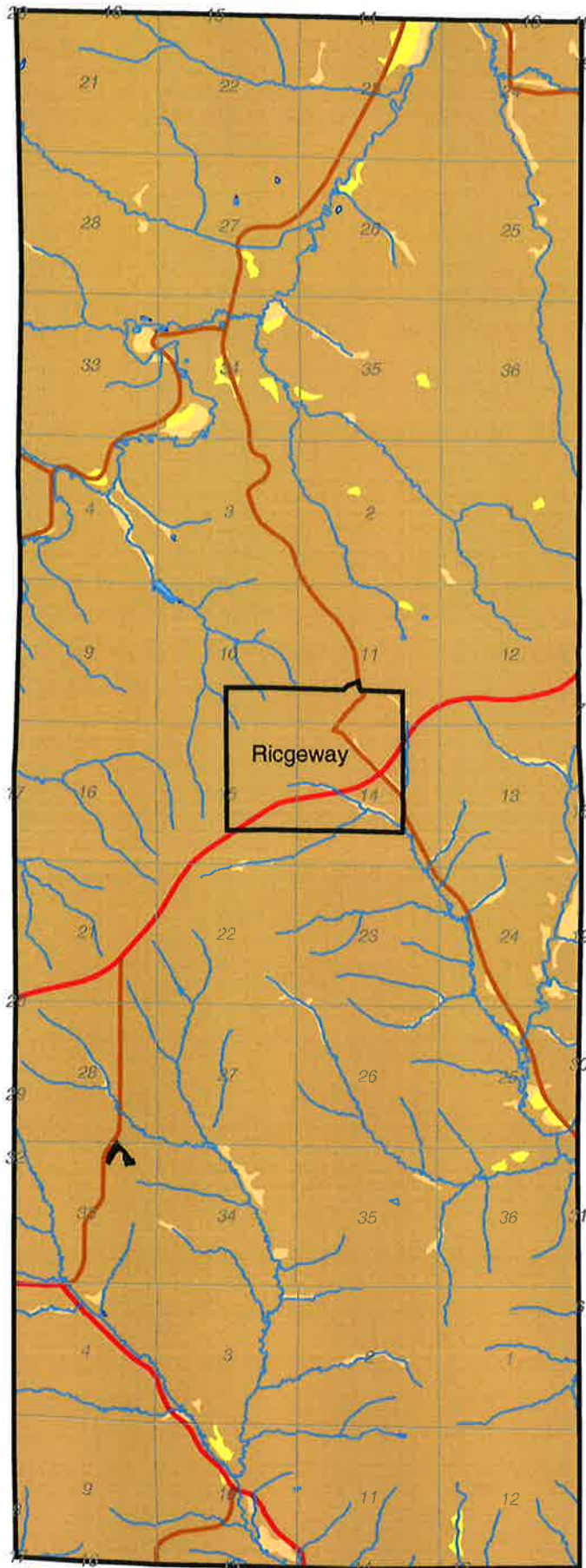


SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

RIDGEWAY SEPTIC LIMITATIONS

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.10



Legend

-  Slight Soil Limitations
-  Moderate Soil Limitations
-  Severe Soil Limitations
-  Other Features
-  Open Water

1 inch equals 1.14 miles



August 26, 2003
Ridgeway Septic

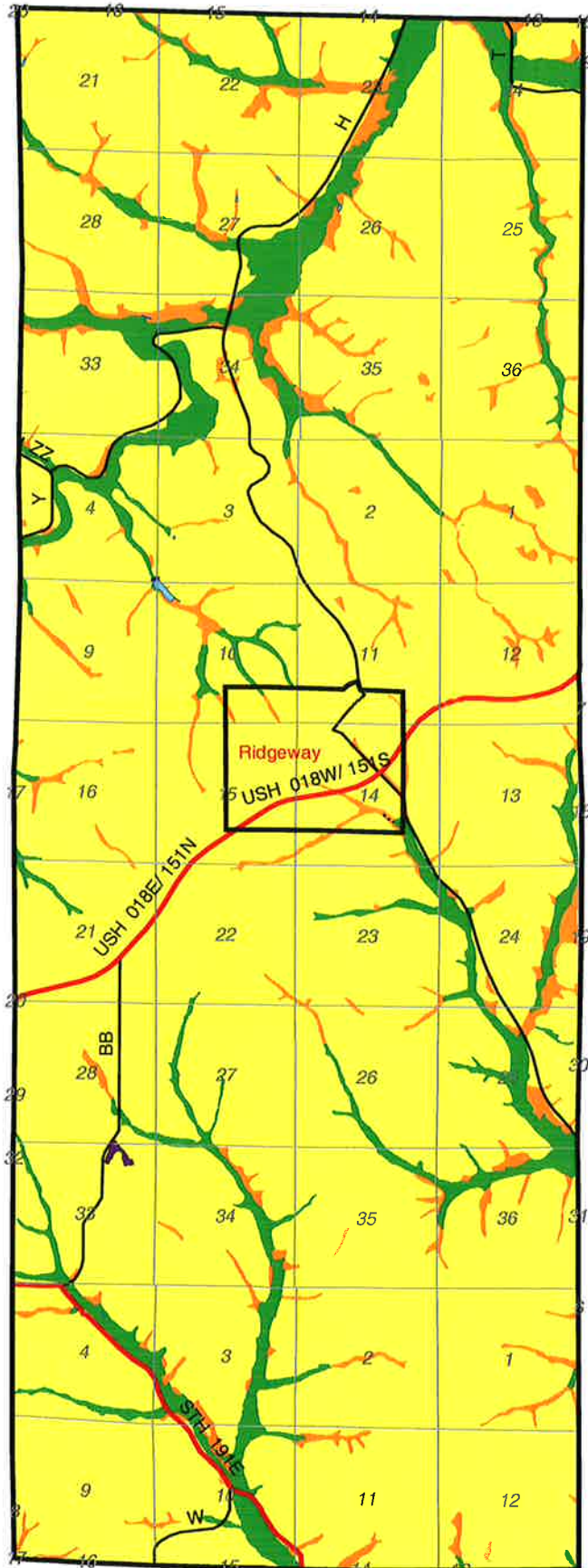


SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

RIDGEWAY DEPTH TO BEDROCK

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.11



Legend

-  Less Than 4 Feet To Bedrock
-  From 4 To 20 Feet To Bedrock
-  More Than 20 Feet To Bedrock
-  Open Water
-  Quarries
-  Other Features
-  Major Highways
-  County Highways

1 inch equals 1.19 miles



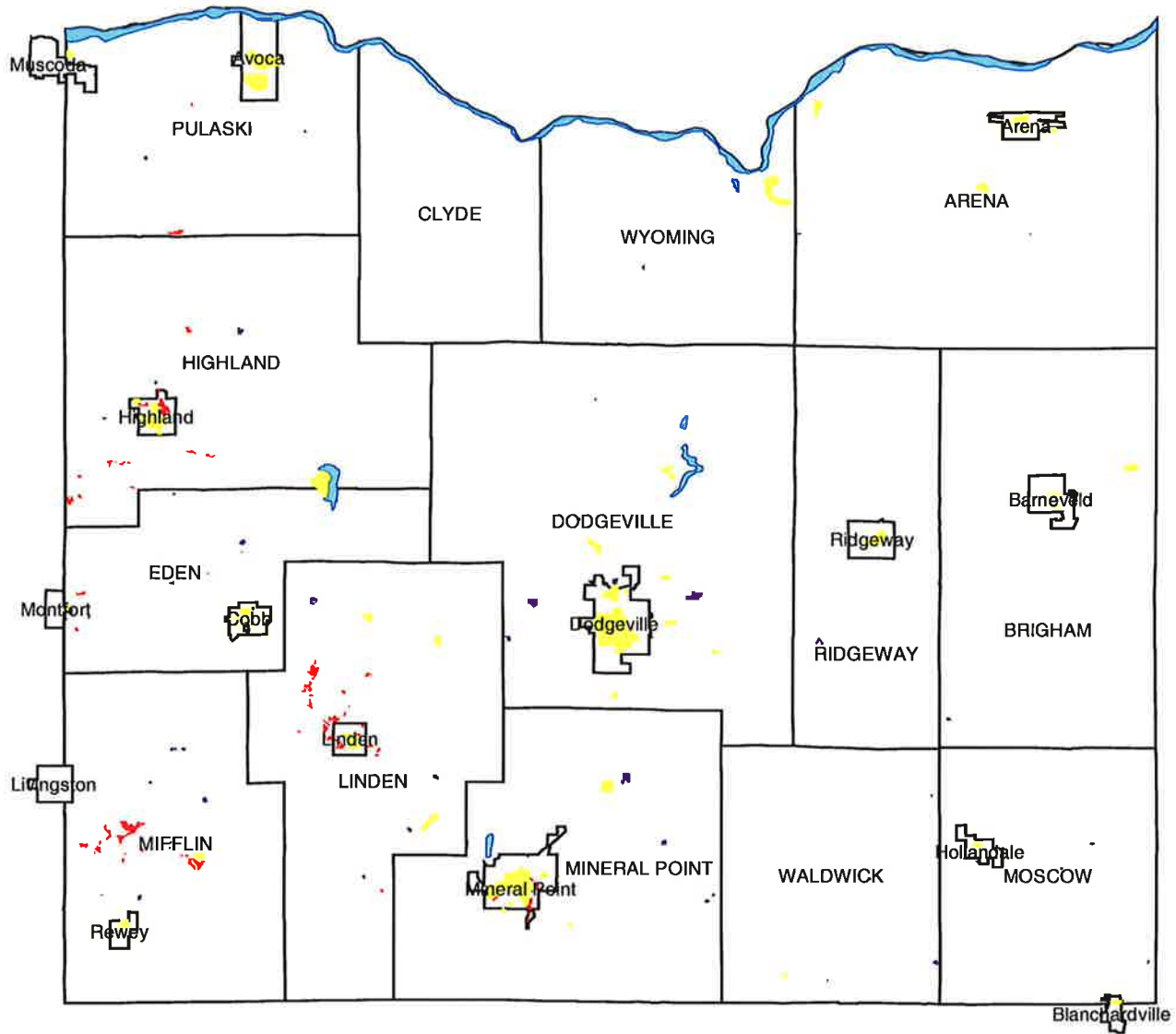
SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

August 27, 2003
Ridgeway D-BR

MINES AND QUARRIES

- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.12



1 inch equals 4.68 miles



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

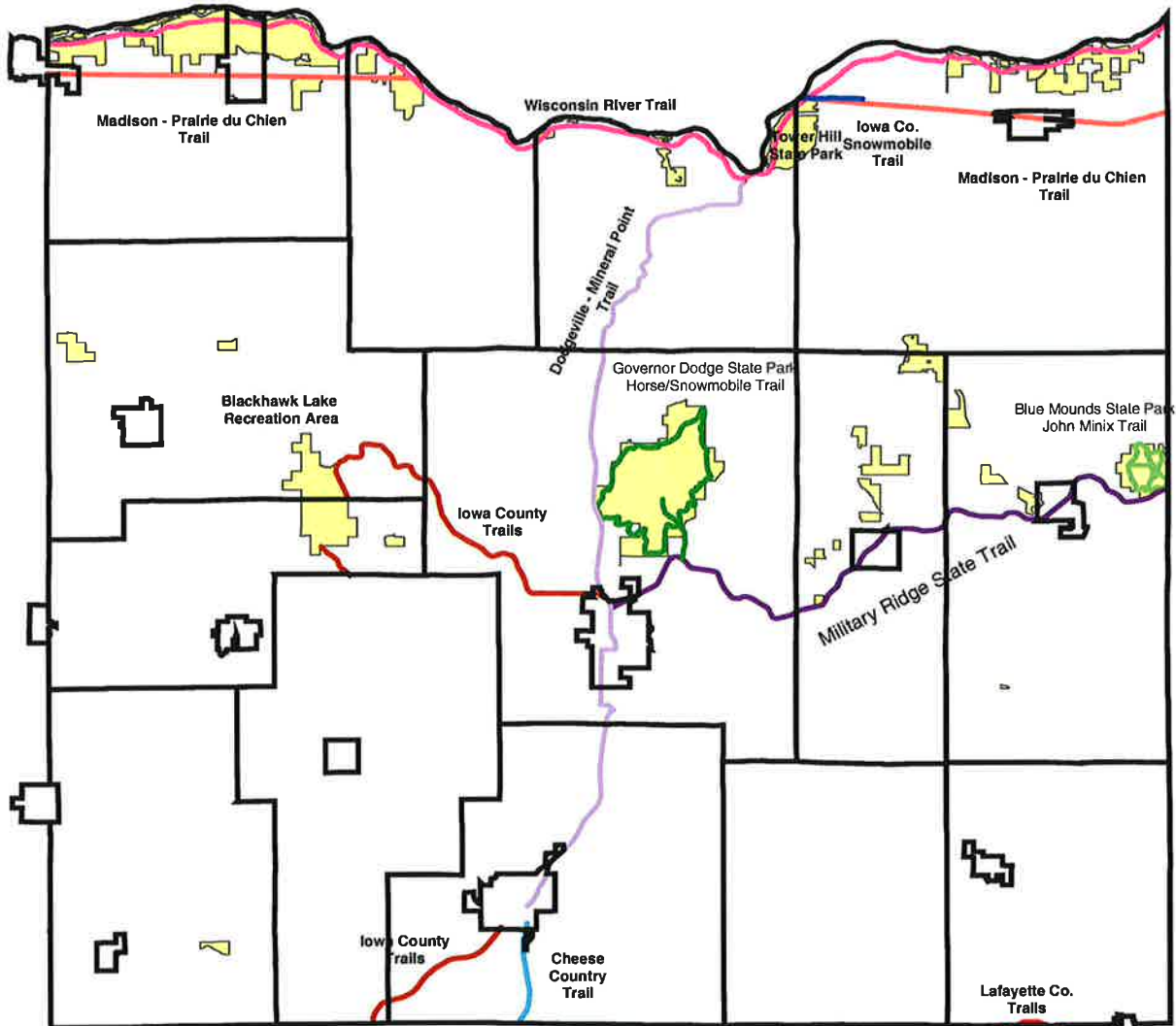
December 18, 2003
IA CO Mines-Quarries

Legend

-  Open Water
-  Urban Developed
-  Mines
-  Quarries

IOWA COUNTY RECREATIONAL TRAILS AND PARKS

MAP E.13



Legend

- Blue Mounds State Park - John Minix Trail
- Cheese Country Trail - Railroad Corridor
- Gov Dodge State Park - Horse-Snowmobile Trail
- Iowa County Snowmobile Trails
- Military Ridge State Trail - Railroad Corridor
- Dodgeville-Mineral Point Trail - Road Corridor
- Iowa County Trails - Road Routes - Planned
- Lafayette County Trails - Road Routes - Planned
- Madison-Prairie du Chien Trail - Road Corridor - Planned
- Wisconsin River Trail - River Corridor - Planned
- Iowa County Parks

1 inch equals 4.79 miles



February 26, 2004
IA Co Rec Trails-Parks

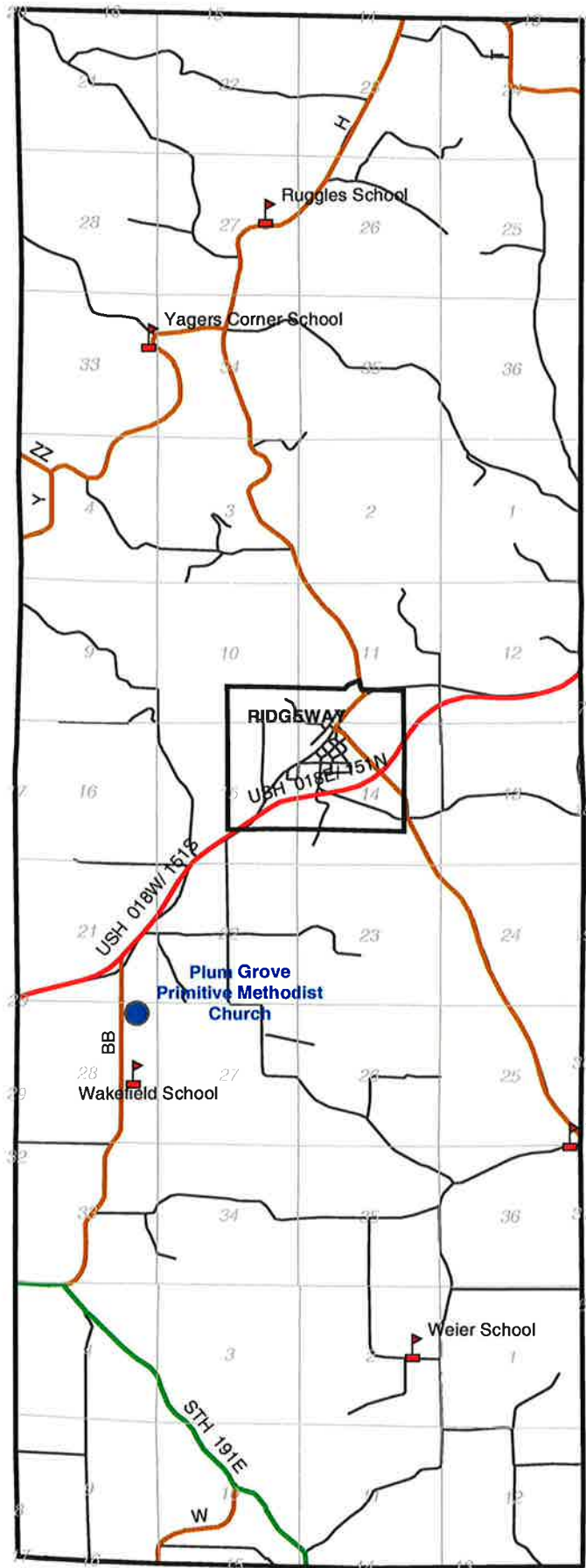


SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

RURAL SCHOOLS AND HISTORIC PLACES

- TOWN OF RIDGEWAY -
- IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.14

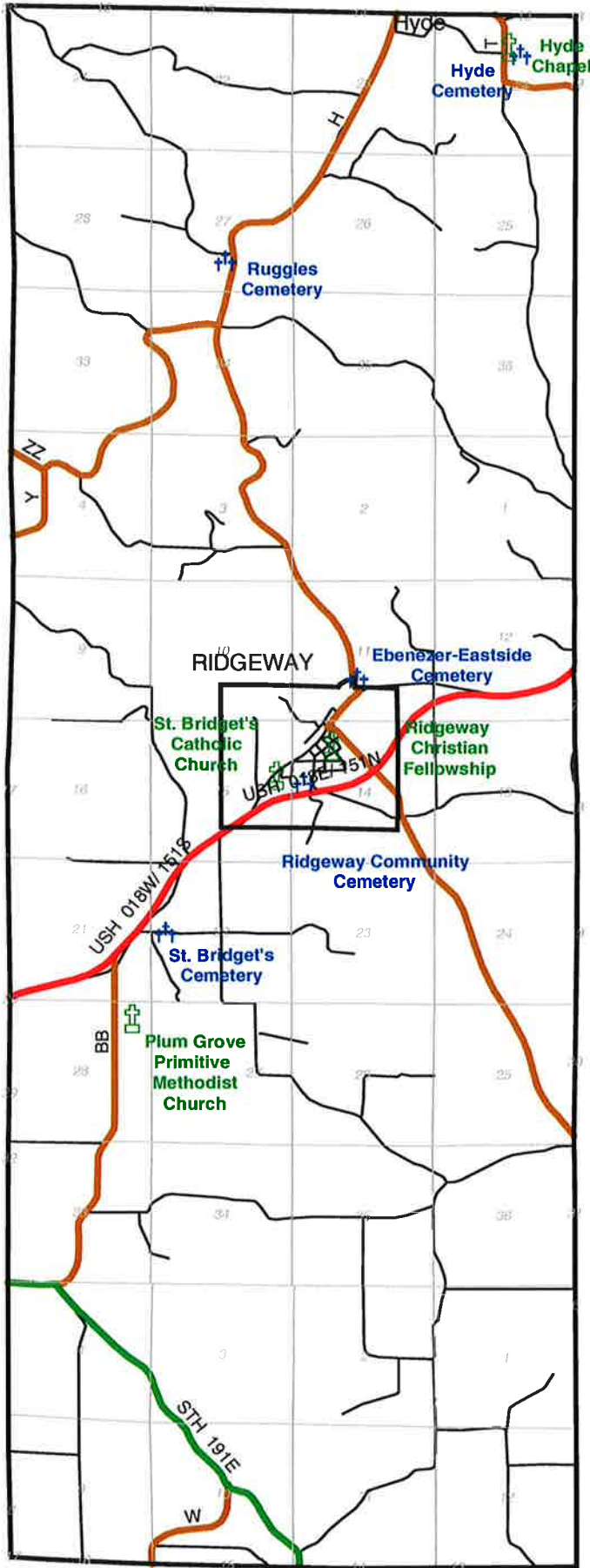


SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

June 9, 2004
Ridgeway Rural Schools Map E-14



1 inch equals 1.15 miles



CEMETERY AND CHURCH LOCATIONS

- TOWN OF RIDGEWAY -
 - IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN -

MAP E.15

1 inch equals 1.14 miles



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
 REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
 719 Pioneer Tower
 1 University Plaza
 Platteville, WI 53818

June 13, 2004
 Ridgeway Cem-Ch Map E-15

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this section is to analyze business, industry, and employment trends and characteristics in the Town of Ridgeway and Iowa County. Selected information is presented at the minor civil division level, a Census Bureau term for cities, villages, and towns. Specifically, this section provides an overview of the economy, sets policy direction for economic growth, and identifies strategies, programs, and projects to improve the economy. Specific information in this section includes employment status of the population, labor force participation rates, work status and income levels, employment industries and occupations, along with other relevant information.

Information in this element of the comprehensive plan comes from visioning sessions originally conducted at the end of 2002 and subsequently updated in 2016. In 2016, public opinion surveys were sent to all residents and property owners in the Town of Ridgeway, two public hearings were conducted, and citizens were encouraged to submit their opinions about their views of economic development and future economic development needs in their area.

**Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(f)**

(f) Economic development element. A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to promote the stabilization, retention or expansion, of the economic base and quality employment opportunities in the local governmental unit, including an analysis of the labor force and economic base of the local governmental unit. The element shall assess categories or particular types of new businesses and industries that are desired by the local governmental unit. The element shall assess the local governmental unit's strengths and weaknesses with respect to attracting and retaining businesses and industries, and shall designate an adequate number of sites for such businesses and industries. The element shall also evaluate and promote the use of environmentally contaminated sites for commercial or industrial uses. The element shall also identify county, regional and state economic development programs that apply to the local governmental unit.

INTRODUCTION

The economic development strategy for a community is a compilation of the objectives, policies, or goals, along with requisite maps, and the identification of programs and projects that promote the stabilization, retention, or expansion of the economic base and quality employment opportunities in the local governmental unit. It normally incorporates an analysis of the labor force and the economic base of the community. It tries to assess the categories or types of new businesses and industries that are acceptable to the local governmental unit, and identifies the jurisdiction's strengths and weaknesses for attracting or retaining these businesses and industries.

The requisite number of industrial or business sites needed to accommodate the community's stated goals and objectives, includes the evaluation of any known environmentally contaminated sites that could be used for commercial or industrial purposes. The strategy also identifies any applicable county, regional, state, or national economic development programs that may apply to the economic development goals of the community.

High profile projects for Iowa County communities include the need to fulfill tax increment financing district plans and the attraction of new business investments to the county. The Town of Ridgeway now has an enhanced opportunity to attract and grow additional businesses as a result of the major highway improvements to the US Highway 151 corridor. Opportunities now exist to facilitate new investments and commercial investment in the highway interchange area, and to enhance and promote tourism. The Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) law (SB 305/306, adopted February 29, 2004) makes it easier for cities and villages to add residential development where there is a desire for it. The Tourism, Agriculture, Forestry (TAF) law (AB 347, adopted April 13, 2004) helps towns pursue tourism, agricultural, or forestry-based developments. There appears to be a strong commitment to rural issues throughout the county, and by working together as a county, many problems may be able to be addressed.

It is recommended that the county and its communities consider the formation of a countywide economic development organization, and specific recommendations, including a possible model to follow, is provided in the policy statements below. The reasons for doing such a thing are numerous and compelling. Among them:

- (1) The county has several industrial and business parks that have had, or are proposed for, considerable public investment, and these should be marketed by the communities;
- (2) Iowa County as a whole, along with several of its communities, has a strong economic development tool in a relatively large revolving loan fund that can be more effectively utilized if full time professional staff were available to work with prospective borrowers;
- (3) From a regional economic development perspective, Iowa County is the "hole in the donut" being surrounded on all sides by counties that have formed countywide economic development corporations (Grant, Lafayette, Green, Richland and Sauk) or have other significant economic development capacity (Dane). There are many regional initiatives, such as the Agricultural Development Zone tax credit program, and the Southwest Wisconsin Regional Economic Development Coalition (swwrpc.org/redc) that could benefit from greater Iowa County participation if additional staff capacity were available.
- (4) Approximately three-quarters of all counties in the state, including many rural counties, have found the need to form countywide economic development organizations. It is one of the most effective models for promoting the local area and working on a myriad of issues of interest to its members. It is also not too large and not too small to be effective, and the members have a considerable number of things in common;
- (5) Economic development is more than just enhancing business development or creating and saving jobs. It is complex, with many areas of concern, including preservation or modernization of farms, protecting the environment, promoting new housing, and many more. In order to achieve community goals, it may be necessary to increase the institutional capacity to deal with them. Such an organization, with its economy of scale, can be very affordable to its members.

The Wisconsin Economic Development Association (WEDA) provides more information below.

What is Economic Development or Why the Buck (\$) Starts Here!

Economic development (ED) is a term commonly heard these days but it is an important concept that is often misunderstood.

What is Economic Development?

Economic development is the process by which a community organizes and then applies its energies to the tasks of improving the economic well-being and quality of life for the community. Economic development is an investment in the community.

Why Should You Be Concerned About Economic Development?

The reasons are quite basic. Economic development helps pay the bills. Economic development is about working together to maintain a strong economy by creating and retaining desirable jobs, which provide a good standard of living for individuals, thereby increasing the tax base, so a community, county or state can provide the level of services residents expect.

Does Economic Development Really Matter?

A community needs ED in order to help pay for growing citizen wants, to retain and grow existing businesses, to attract new business and investment, to nurture local entrepreneurs (start-ups) and to replenish income lost by dollar "leakage" out of the community through the purchase of goods made elsewhere. Job growth and maintenance in local basic industries (which produce goods and services sold outside the area) brings new dollars into the community. New dollars invested or spent in a community generate more economic activity, creating a "multiplier" effect. The higher the multiplier, the greater is the effect on the local economy. The same applies for new jobs in the community. Multiplier total impacts commonly fall in the range between 1.5 and 2. Subsequently, the total community impact of new dollars or jobs can be up to double the amount of the original amount.

Similarly, new capital investment in real property generates a continuous revenue stream through property taxes. At the average rate for Wisconsin cities, one million dollars in new business property produces annual revenue of \$25,000. Vacant and underutilized property can generate the opposite result. Due to these dynamic circumstances, if there is no mechanism to foster growth and positive change, the alternative is community economic stagnation and decay.

Why Economic Development Now?

Economic development has increasingly become an integral part of public policy decision-making. Simultaneously, until recently, ED success has been continual, to the point where it was assumed and taken for granted.

Now, the problem is how can scarce (limited) resources be utilized in the most efficient manner to satisfy limitless wants, both individual and collective?

Major changes in world and national economies are now taking place. In response to globalization, some companies are merging, moving, shrinking, or closing. Community economic success is no longer a "given" and cannot be taken for granted. What then?

It all depends upon how a community reacts to economic change; what it knows about itself, its economy and the wants and needs of all its citizens; and, how it is positioned to satisfying these wants and needs in the future.

The significance of ED programs and professions is never greater than in "challenging" times, such as we currently have. The last place to look for cuts and cost savings is the one place – ED – that can best return our communities and state to the level of growth and prosperity we so recently enjoyed. This is an important and continual job, requiring cooperation, analysis, expertise, and action.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Below are the policies that will help Iowa County and its jurisdictions achieve a self-sustaining economic development initiative in both the short- and long-term.

- **The various interested communities, county representatives, and other parties including businesses and business organizations, should meet to discuss the creation of a countywide economic development corporation.**
- **All incorporated jurisdictions, as well as the county, should provide for annual funding of economic development needs, including, but not limited to membership dues in organizations that promote economic development beneficial to the county.**
- **Each community should create a community fund through the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, especially if there is not an alternative vehicle for encouraging local charitable contributions that go toward overall community betterment.**
- **Utilize the availability of training programs to enhance local capacity building for purposes of community and economic development.**
- **Develop necessary information to market the community and the available business sites and available buildings within the community on the Internet.**
- **Work on tourism potential as tourism is one of the fundamental assets of the Town of Ridgeway.**
- **Make historic preservation and tourism a fundamental economic development strategy of community and county efforts.**
- **Conduct a housing needs assessment in all areas interested in housing development, and make housing development a fundamental economic development strategy in areas where this is desired, but evaluate proposals by doing a feasibility analysis.**
- **Become familiar with new Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and the Tourism, Agriculture, Forestry (TAF) laws. This is pertinent for any jurisdiction, even towns, as there may be considerable opportunities for economic development.**

ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPINIONS FROM THE 2016 RIDGEWAY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY**

Of respondents with an opinion about an economic development issue, the following five were the most favorably rated options in the 2016 Ridgeway Township Land Use Survey.

- Seventy-nine percent rated Residential Development near the Village of Ridgeway as either essential or important.
- Seventy-six percent rated Tourism and Recreation as either essential or important.
- Seventy-four percent rated Home-Based Cottage Industry as either essential or important.
- Seventy-three percent rated a Childcare Facility as either essential or important.
- Seventy-one percent rated Commercial Development as either essential or important.

Four other options were less favorably rated, namely, a Solar Farm, Bed and Breakfasts, Industrial Development and a Wind Farm. The full results of the Economic Development options in the 2016 Ridgeway Township Public Opinion Survey can be viewed in Appendix x.x, Question 10.

FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES, AND FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO BUSINESS

- There is a wide range of potential sources of assistance in financing a business locating or expanding in Iowa County. For further assistance, contact the Iowa County Administrator's office.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Many cities, townships, villages, and counties begin cooperative arrangements to lower costs and promote efficiency. Most arrangements involve only two governmental units, but there are also agreements among multiple units. Intergovernmental cooperation may range from formal joint power agreements to unwritten understandings. Two cities may have an unwritten agreement about sharing road repair equipment, or a cluster of cities and townships may have a written agreement concerning snow removal or economic development. The opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation are endless.

Intergovernmental cooperation is an effective way for local governments to respond to changing and diverse needs by working together with their neighbors, while maintaining their own identity. If an agreement can be reached among two or more units of government, services can often be provided with substantial cost savings. Cooperation can also eliminate unnecessary duplication of services or purchasing of equipment.

**Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(g)**

(g) Intergovernmental cooperation element. A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps, and programs for joint planning and decision making with other jurisdictions, including school districts, drainage districts, and adjacent local governmental units, for siting and building public facilities and sharing public services. The element shall analyze the relationship of the local governmental unit to school districts, drainage districts, and adjacent local governmental units, and to the region, the state and other governmental units. The element shall consider, to the greatest extent possible, the maps and plans of any military base or installation, with at least 200 assigned military personnel or that contains at least 2,000 acres, with which the local governmental unit shares common territory. The element shall incorporate any plans or agreements to which the local governmental unit is a party under s. [66.0301](#), [66.0307](#) or [66.0309](#). The element shall identify existing or potential conflicts between the local governmental unit and other governmental units that are specified in this paragraph and describe processes to resolve such conflicts.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION POLICIES

The following are the intergovernmental cooperation policies for the Town of Ridgeway.

➤ **Maintain established intergovernmental relationships.**

The Town of Ridgeway does share some services with other jurisdictions and this should be continued as long as they are beneficial.

➤ **Explore new opportunities to cooperate with other local units of government.**

As costs continue to rise for providing many facilities and services, the exploration of additional ways to cooperate may prove to be beneficial in order to contain costs.

➤ **Establish written intergovernmental cooperation agreements.**

Often time, intergovernmental cooperation agreements are established based on verbal agreements. Changes in leadership can cause problems with agreements if the specifics have not been identified in writing. It is recommended that all intergovernmental agreements be in writing to avoid any disputes or misunderstandings.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS

A good working relationship between neighbors is important. Good intergovernmental communication and cooperation can benefit everyone. A good relationship with inter-jurisdictional county, regional, and state entities can provide economic, environmental, and political advantages for a jurisdiction. Best of all, a positive intergovernmental relationship fosters and supports a sense of community and good fellowship.

EXISTING AREAS OF COOPERATION

- **Fire Protection Services** – Fire protection service agreements exist between the Town and the Village of Ridgeway.
- **Ambulance Services** – The City of Dodgeville and the Village of Barneveld share ambulance services with Ridgeway.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFLICTS

No conflicts were identified.

OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONCERNS

One intergovernmental concern identified by the Town of Ridgeway pertains to the issue of cooperation with the Village of Ridgeway on the location of an industrial park. Ridgeway Township does not have the infrastructure to help develop or support an industrial park. However, the Plan Commission noted that it is their practice to work as much as possible with other agencies and municipalities to best serve the citizens of the Town of Ridgeway.

POSSIBLE FUTURE COOPERATION EFFORTS

As the list above indicates, the Town of Ridgeway is already cooperating with other jurisdictions for services and facilities. The list below identifies possible areas of cooperation in the future.

- **Road Maintenance** – The possibility exists of sharing the cost and responsibility of grading and mowing Town roads with neighboring towns.

COMMUNICATION WITH NEIGHBORS

The Town Board meets with the Village Board when there is business that pertains to both. All Town meetings are posted in the Village of Ridgeway and Town Board members attend County meetings.

FORMAL AGREEMENTS WITH NEIGHBORING JURISDICTIONS

The Town of Ridgeway has formal agreements with

- Village of Ridgeway – Fire Department operation
- Iowa County – Planning and Zoning services
- Barneveld-Brigham Fire and Rescue Protection District – Agreement to provide Ambulance services to 60% of the Town
- Dodgeville Area Ambulance Service – Agreement to provide Ambulance services to 40% of the Town

ADVANTAGES OF LOCAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Intergovernmental cooperation has many advantages associated with it including the following:

Efficiency and reduction of costs: Cooperating on the provision of services can potentially mean lower costs per unit or person. Although these are by no means the only reasons, efficiency and reduced costs are the most common reasons governments seek to cooperate.

Limited government restructuring: Cooperating with neighboring governments often avoids the time-consuming, costly, and politically sensitive issues of government restructuring. For example, if a city and township can cooperate, the township may avoid annexation of its land and the city may avoid incorporation efforts on the part of the township, which may hinder the city's development. Cooperation also helps avoid the creation of special districts that take power and resources away from existing governments.



Coordination and planning: Through cooperation, governments can develop policies for the area and work on common problems. Such coordination helps communities minimize conflicts when levels of services and enforcement are different among neighboring communities. For example, shared water, sewage, and waste management policies can help avoid the situation in which one area's environment is contaminated by a neighboring jurisdiction with lax standards or limited services. Cooperation can also lead to joint planning for future services and the resources needed to provide them.

Expanded services: Cooperation may provide a local unit of government with services it would otherwise be without. Cooperation can make those services financially and logistically possible.

DISADVANTAGES OF LOCAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Intergovernmental cooperation also has drawbacks, which may include the following:

Reaching and maintaining an agreement: In general, reaching a consensus in cases in which politics and community sentiments differ can be difficult. For example, all parties may agree that police protection is necessary. However, they may disagree widely on how much protection is needed. An agreement may fall apart if one jurisdiction wants infrequent patrolling and the other wants an active and visible police force.

Unequal partners: If one party to an agreement is more powerful, it may influence the agreement's conditions. With service agreements, the more powerful party, or the party providing the service, may have little to lose if the agreement breaks down, it may already service itself at a reasonable rate. The weaker participants may not have other options and are open to possible exploitation.

Local self-preservation and control: Some jurisdictions may feel their identity and independence will be threatened by intergovernmental cooperation. The pride of residents and officials may be bruised if, after decades of providing their own police or fire protection, they must contract with a neighboring jurisdiction (and possible old rival) for the service. In addition, and possibly more importantly, a jurisdiction may lose some control over what takes place within their boundaries. And although government officials may lose

control, they are still held responsible for the delivery of services to their electorates.

STEPS TO BEGINNING SUCCESSFUL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION EFFORTS

As expressed earlier in this section, intergovernmental cooperation should be thoroughly reviewed. Below are some ideas and concerns that should be considered.

- Identify other local governments that may share a common problem or may stand to benefit from cooperation.
- Identify whether the county is cooperating with other jurisdictions on a similar service. What type of arrangement do they have? Are the participating jurisdictions satisfied with the quality and quantity of the service?
- Although cooperation on several services may be desired, analyze each one separately. Initially, it may seem logical to lump services. However, it is best to first understand from a cost and non-cost perspective what cooperation in each service area entails.
- Look at the potential cost savings of each option. This should be done on a per resident or per unit-of-service-provided basis. For example, will the cost of fire protection per person decrease if the jurisdictions cooperate? Or, can the jurisdiction lower per resident costs of providing snow removal if it plows other jurisdictions' streets?
- Consider the costs associated with each form of cooperation. What type of administrative or insurance costs might be necessary with each option?
- How would residents respond to the change in the level of services they receive? And how would taxpayers respond to additional government expenses? Would they reject it?
- Are the residents willing to give up some control over a particular service? This may take considerable polling to determine and will likely vary depending on the type of service in question. For example, it may be all right to share snow removal and street repair equipment, but residents might not be willing to give up their own police department and the security they feel it provides.
- Keep the public and local officials informed throughout the entire process. Present the options and invite public comment. If residents and officials feel they have played a role in the effort, or at least been given the opportunity to provide their input, they will be more likely to support the initiative. Plus, some creative ideas may be generated.
- Patience is important. The more governments involved in the negotiations, the longer it will take to develop an agreement and reach a consensus. In addition, negotiators may have to go back to their city councils, town, or county boards several times for directions or approval.

ADDITIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION IDEAS

The Intergovernmental Cooperation Element Guide published by the Wisconsin Department of Administration provides several ideas for cooperation including the following listed below. These are only ideas to consider.

(Note: the following ideas were taken directly from the Intergovernmental Cooperation Guide.)

Voluntary Assistance: Your community, or another, could voluntarily agree to provide a service to your neighbors because doing so makes economic sense and improves service levels.

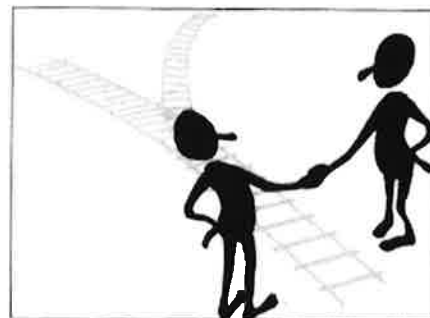
Trading Services: Your community and another could agree to exchange services. You could exchange the use of different pieces of equipment, equipment for labor, or labor for labor.

Renting Equipment: Your community could rent equipment to, or from, neighboring communities and

other governmental units. Renting equipment can make sense for both communities – the community renting gets the use of equipment without having to buy it, and the community renting out the equipment earns income from the equipment rather than having it sit idle.

Contracting: Your community could contract with another community or jurisdiction to provide a service. For example, you could contract with an adjacent town or village to provide police and fire protection, or you could contract with the county for a service in addition to that already routinely provided by the county sheriff's department.

Routine County Services: Some services are already paid for through taxes and fees. Examples are police protection services from the county sheriff's department, county zoning, county public health services, and county parks. Your Intergovernmental Cooperation Element could identify areas where improvements are needed and could recommend ways to cooperatively address them.



Sharing Municipal Staff: Your community could share staff with neighboring communities and other jurisdictions – both municipal employees and independently contracted professionals. You could share a building inspector, assessor, planner, engineer, zoning administrator, clerk, etc.

Consolidating Services: Your community could agree with one or more other communities or governmental units to provide a service together.

Joint Use of a Facility: Your community could use a public facility along with other jurisdictions. The facility could be jointly owned or one jurisdiction could rent space from another.

Special Purpose Districts: Special purpose districts are created to provide a particular service, unlike municipalities that provide many different types of services. Like municipalities, special purpose districts are separate and legally independent entities.

Joint Purchase and Ownership of Equipment: Your community could agree with other jurisdictions to jointly purchase and own equipment such as pothole patching machines, mowers, rollers, snowplows, street sweepers, etc.

Cooperative Purchasing: Cooperative purchasing, or procurement, is where jurisdictions purchase supplies and equipment together to gain more favorable prices.

TECHNIQUES AND PROGRAMS FOR MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY COOPERATION

As the Town of Ridgeway continues to grow, it may be necessary to consider some type of boundary agreements. Municipal boundaries can be altered in a number of ways including the following:

- **Annexation**

Annexation is the process of transferring parcels of land from unincorporated areas to adjacent cities or villages. More detailed information on annexation can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Sections 66.0217-66.0223.

- **Detachment**

Detachment is the process by which territory is detached from one jurisdiction and transferred to another. Essentially detachment is the opposite of annexation. More detailed information on detachment can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Sections 66.0227 and 62.075.

- **Incorporation**

Incorporation is the process of creating a new village or city from unincorporated territory. More detailed

information on incorporation can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Sections 66.0201-66.0215.

• **Consolidation**

Consolidation is the process by which a town, village, or city joins together with another town, village, or city to form one jurisdiction. More detailed information on incorporation can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Section 66.0229.

• **Intergovernmental Agreements**

Intergovernmental Agreements provide communities with a different type of approach because it is proactive rather than reactive. There are two types of intergovernmental agreements that can be formed including cooperative boundary agreements and stipulations and orders. More detailed information on intergovernmental agreements can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute 66.0307 (Cooperative Boundary Agreements) and 66.0225 (Stipulations and Orders).

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS—MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
REVIEW (DHIR-MBR)**

Municipal Boundary Review regulates the transition of unincorporated areas to city or village status through municipal annexation, incorporation, consolidation, or by joint city-village-town activities involving cooperative boundary plans and agreements. Such agreements may change territorial boundaries and may provide for the sharing of municipal services. Staff members are available upon request to meet with local officials and citizens to discuss annexation, incorporation, consolidation and cooperative boundary plans.

MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY REVIEW

**Office of Land Information Services
Municipal Boundary Review
101 East Wilson Street, 9th Floor
Madison, WI 53703**

**Phone: 608-264-6102
Fax: 608-264-6104**

wimunicipalboundaryreview@wi.gov

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this section is to review and analyze land use in the Town of Ridgeway. The land use element is the compilation of all other elements of this plan. Designating land uses and standards for development requires the Town to be able to adequately provide utilities, maintain roads, and support other services. Therefore, the policies and programs of the land use element must be supported by all other elements of the plan. This section will consider both current and future land use in the Town of Ridgeway. At the present time, the dominant developed land use in the Town is agricultural.

**Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(h)**

(h) Land-use element. A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development and redevelopment of public and private property. The element shall contain a listing of the amount, type, intensity and net density of existing uses of land in the local governmental unit, such as agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial and other public and private uses. The element shall analyze trends in the supply, demand and price of land, opportunities for redevelopment and existing and potential land-use conflicts. The element shall contain projections, based on the background information specified in par. (a), for 20 years, in 5-year increments, of future residential, agricultural, commercial and industrial land uses including the assumptions of net densities or other spatial assumptions upon which the projections are based. The element shall also include a series of maps that shows current land uses and future land uses that indicate productive agricultural soils, natural limitations for building site development, floodplains, wetlands and other environmentally sensitive lands, the boundaries of areas to which services of public utilities and community facilities, as those terms are used in par. (d), will be provided in the future, consistent with the timetable described in par. (d), and the general location of future land uses by net density or other classifications.

LAND USE POLICIES

The following are the land use policies for the Town of Ridgeway.

Residential Development Policies

- **The minimum parcel size to build a single-family residence as new development will be one acre.**

All building parcels will be required to meet the land division requirement of the Town of Ridgeway. The maximum amount of farmland to be used as a residential building site will be one acre.

- **All new driveways and access easements will require the review and approval of the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway.**

Driveways must be constructed and approved prior to obtaining a Building Permit from the Town of Ridgeway.

- **All new residential development, including access driveways, will be required to conform to the natural limitations presented by the topography, soils, and vegetation of the land being developed.**

Residential development will be required to conform to the performance standards established in the Comprehensive Plan in Table I.1.

- **The Town of Ridgeway will not accept the dedication or maintenance responsibility for any additional roads servicing residential development.**

Refer to the Town's rural residential siting criteria sheet in Section I, Implementation Element, and Map H-1 in this Section for more information.

Commercial, Manufacturing and Agricultural Development Policies

As a part of reviewing manufacturing, commercial or agricultural development proposals, developers will be required to submit impact statements assessing in detail the proposed project's impact on (a) farms and farmland; (b) natural resources; (c) Town roads; (d) fire and emergency medical services; (e) Town taxes; and (f) community setting. This impact assessment must demonstrate positive benefits to the community before such development will be permitted.

Town officials welcome development proposals that conform to the Town Land Use Policies and recognize that proposals may vary greatly in their scope and impact. It is understood that the detail required for a proposal may also vary depending on the scope and impact of a proposal.

- **Commercial and manufacturing development will be permitted in conformance with all the other policies established for development in designated areas. In addition, the Town of Ridgeway will encourage new commercial and manufacturing development to "cluster" or locate in or adjacent to existing commercial or manufacturing areas. New development shall be compatible with adjacent land uses and shall not degrade the environment.**
- **Except for small family businesses, new commercial and manufacturing development will be required to have frontage on either a county or state highway or an adequately improved Township road. Commercial and manufacturing development at any proposed highway interchange shall be controlled to promote safe, compact, and convenient highway-oriented**

facilities.

Small family businesses may be permitted in any part of the Town provided that primary members of the immediate family conduct the business. Signage shall be determined by conditional use restrictions.

- **Manufacturing businesses requiring large quantities of water and wastewater disposal will be encouraged to locate in areas where municipal sanitary sewer and water systems are available.**
- **Agricultural businesses providing farm services and/or supplies will be permitted to locate within the farming areas of the Town.**

Agricultural business development will be reviewed by the Town as a conditional use that may receive variance from the other policies and performance standards of the Comprehensive Plan.

- **Recreation and institutional development proposed in the Town of Ridgeway will be required to meet all of the polices and standards of the Comprehensive Plan.**
- **When rezoning is requested, only that portion of land necessary for the projected use shall be rezoned.**

Those lands that exhibit the greatest long-term commitment to agriculture based upon soil type, ownership patterns, investment and other criteria previously identified and mapped shall continue to be recognized.

This policy recognizes that prohibiting all development in agricultural areas is not realistic; certain Ag-related uses such as grain storage facilities or implement sales and service requiring a rural location may be permitted. Those land uses and activities that could conflict with the agriculture use or adversely affect the long-term investment in land and improvements in areas designated for farmland preservation shall be discouraged. This policy provides for a minimum amount of residential development in agricultural areas. Rezoning would be required for residential construction. Farmers within the Town are encouraged to follow soil conservation plans and utilize soil conservation practices.

The Town shall cooperate with other agencies and units of government to establish eligibility for farmers who wish to receive tax credits for participation in farmland preservation programs. Agencies and bodies responsible for the preparation of plans for public improvements, such as roadway corridors, power lines, pipelines, or sanitary landfills shall be requested to recognize the agricultural goals of the Town.

US Highway 18/151 Interchange Area Commercial, Manufacturing and Agricultural Development Policies

Because of the unique characteristics and opportunities presented to the Town of Ridgeway by the 2018 addition of a highway interchange on US 18/151 immediately to the west of the Village of Ridgeway, additional Land Use Policies specific to the Interchange Area (see the blue-highlighted area on map H.2) have been established. This interchange development area is subject to all of the guidelines listed above in Element H under the heading "Commercial, Manufacturing and Agricultural Development Policies" as well as the specific policies listed below. Existing agricultural use in this area will be supported by the Town of Ridgeway and taken into consideration when nonagricultural development is proposed.

- **The development should provide needed services, resources or assets to the Town of Ridgeway and complement development promoted by the Village of Ridgeway.**

- **Development that requires connection to public water and/or sewer service will be considered provided the Village of Ridgeway is agreeable to providing access to those services.**
- **The anticipated traffic type, volume and pattern must be compatible with the existing public roadways so as not to create a significant safety risk or need for road modification or maintenance at the expense of the Town of Ridgeway.**
- **Development that produces hazardous, volatile or other substances deemed a potential threat to public health and safety, whether by design or as a by-product, are discouraged unless there are credible measures put in place for mitigating the potential impacts.**
- **Development that creates sights, sounds or odors that may be deemed offensive or a nuisance to existing land uses within the area are discouraged unless there are credible measures put in place for mitigating the potential impacts.**
- **The Town of Ridgeway may consider investing in infrastructure, such as roads, utilities, water, sewer, etc. if deemed to be of benefit to the public, and may encourage cooperation of the Village of Ridgeway.**
- **When considering an individual development proposal, the Town of Ridgeway will take into account the consistency with, and impact on, existing development in the area.**
- **Survey results show that preserving scenic views and rural character is important to Town of Ridgeway residents. Town officials therefore request that new business owners beautify their properties with trees, shrubs, fencing and the like.**

Refer to the Town's commercial siting criteria sheet in Section I, Implementation Element, and Map H-1 in this Section for more information.

Resource Protection and Other Recreation Areas

- **All plans for development in or adjacent to important natural features will be carefully reviewed by the Town Plan Commission and Town Board to ensure that existing natural features are preserved whenever possible.**
- **Soil erosion control measures will be encouraged in all land uses.**
- **The preservation and maintenance of areas needed to support wildlife shall be encouraged.**

Environmental Protection Policies

- **The Comprehensive Plan is designed to protect the natural environment and special features of the ridge and valley land characteristic of the Town of Ridgeway.**

Development in floodplains or steep slopes will be prohibited. All development will be managed to protect the natural lay of the land, groundwater resources, floodplains, and the aesthetic qualities of this landscape. The Comprehensive Plan is designed to guide new development in the Town of Ridgeway. In most cases, the statements are general in nature, with the intent of providing some flexibility in their application. The policies have been coordinated with the policies of County Zoning and will be used in combination with other policies, ordinances, and regulatory powers as appropriate.

Rural Non-Farm Areas

- **Unsewered residential subdivisions on soils identified as having severe or very severe**

limitations for septic tank absorption fields and dwellings with basements shall not be allowed.

- **Unsewered residential subdivisions in areas where public sewers are available or planned shall not be allowed.**
- **New unsewered residential lots shall be one acre or more in size as per the Residential Development Polices in this Section H.**
- **Strip residential development along roadways shall be discouraged in order to protect the use of the roadway for moving traffic and to ensure a more visually attractive Town.**
- **Land divisions, site design, and construction plans shall be related to the natural topography of the site. Significant natural features existing on a site should be preserved wherever practicable.**
- **Where land development is undertaken, commonly accepted erosion control practices shall be followed in site preparation and construction. The guidelines, standards, and specifications to be followed are in the publication "Minimizing Erosion in Urbanizing Areas", USDA Soil Conservation Service.**
- **The Town of Ridgeway will encourage energy conservation techniques in the site planning and construction of new uses within the Town.**

Farm Preservation Policies

- **Residential parcels may be created by certified survey if not on soils classified as prime Class I, and II, and at the discretion of the Town Board, Class III land.**
- **Development will not be permitted on productive farmlands (lands having a history of farming activity including cropland) and/or lands containing soils defined as Class I, II or Class III at the discretion of the Town Board as designated in the Soil Survey Report for Iowa County prepared by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.**

An exception to this policy will be granted where farmland parcels are too small to be economically used for agricultural purposes or which are inaccessible to modern farm machinery needed to produce and harvest agricultural products.

- **New private driveways or roads for non-agricultural purposes shall not be permitted to cross or dissect productive farmlands unless allowed along existing line fences or natural features such as a stream.**
- **Any new private development requiring utility extensions (electric power lines, telephone lines, gas distribution lines) to cross productive farmlands in a manner that will disrupt farming activities will not be permitted.**
- **To avoid possible farm nuisance complaints, developments meeting the above criteria will not be permitted to locate within 1,000 feet of an operating farm unit or agricultural facility.**

If in the opinion of the Town Board a greater distance is required to avoid possible conflicts from existing or proposed agricultural operations, a greater set back distance may be required.

- **The Town will encourage farmland erosion control practices.**

Ridgeway will work with the Iowa County Soil Conservation Service and will require landowners to follow approved farm conservation plans aimed at reducing soil erosion rates. Farmland that has a history of strip cropping, contouring, sod waterways, or terraces cannot be changed without

written permission from the Town Board and the Iowa County Soil Conservation Service.

- **The Town will monitor intensive, confinement, and/or large-scale farming operations to avoid possible land use conflicts and environmental nuisances.**

Any farm operation (farm unit) exceeding 300 animal units as defined below will be subject to review and approval in compliance with the performance standards of the Town of Ridgeway Comprehensive Plan.

- **Those lands that exhibit the greatest long-term commitment to agriculture based upon soil type, ownership patterns, investment or other criteria previously identified and mapped shall continue to be recognized as agricultural land.**

This policy recognizes that prohibiting all development in agricultural areas is not realistic, and that certain ag-related uses such as grain storage facilities or implement sales and service requiring a rural location may be permitted. Those land uses and activities that could conflict with the agricultural use or adversely affect the long-term investment in the land and improvements in areas designated for farmland preservation shall be discouraged. This policy provides for a minimum amount of residential development in agricultural areas. Rezoning would be required for residential construction.

EXISTING LAND USE

The Town of Ridgeway is a predominately agricultural and forestry-based community. See Maps E.2 and E.8 in Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resource Element, for existing Ridgeway land use maps.

Table H.1 gives an overview of land use based on the official Statement of Assessment for the Town of Ridgeway.

Table H.1: Town of Ridgeway Land Use Assessment Statistics – 2018

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Percent of Land Area	Value of Land and Improvements
Residential	250	2.0%	\$39,961,300
Commercial	17	0.4%	\$1,476,800
Manufacturing	0	0.0%	\$0
Agricultural	745	73.9%	\$2,493,400
Undeveloped	411	7.4%	\$1,947,200
Agricultural Forest	229	10.3%	\$4,520,800
Productive Forest Lands	111	5.1%	\$4,469,900
Other	90	0.9%	\$9,686,900
Total	1,853	100.0%	\$64,556,300

(Source: Wisconsin Department of Revenue)

<https://www.revenue.wi.gov/slfreports/cotvc/2018soalOWa.pdf>

Relative to the 2003 Statement of Assessment used in the preparation of the previous 2005 Town of Ridgeway Comprehensive Plan, the number of residential parcels has increased from 239 to 250 parcels. The percent of township agricultural land area has decreased from 76.6% to 73.9%.

Land Classification Definitions

Applicable Town of Ridgeway land use policies, as described in Section H of the Town of Ridgeway Comprehensive Plan, may vary depending on the type of land classification.

The following definitions of real estate classifications are based on Wisconsin's State Statutes, and interpretations of these statutes in the Wisconsin Property Assessment Manual which can be found on the Department of Revenue website.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/70/32>

<https://www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/Assessors/home.aspx>

Agricultural property

Agricultural property is land devoted primarily to agricultural use, including buildings and improvements. Agricultural use includes:

- Growing of crops or maintaining pasture using agronomic practices such as soil management and cultivation.
- Physical evidence of ag use such as crops, fencing or livestock.
- Specific Conservation Programs as described by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. <https://www.revenue.wi.gov/pubs/slf/tax18.pdf>
- Tillable Class 1, 2 and 3 soils

Note: Small acreage (waterways, small windbreaks, field roads, etc.) incidental to ag use do not warrant separate classification.

Residential property

Any parcel or part of a parcel of untilled land that is not suitable for the production of crops, on which a dwelling is located. In the absence of infrastructure present, residential property may include small parcels of vacant, untilled land for sale.

Commercial property

Commercial property is land and improvements used for retail businesses, or vacant, untilled land for which the Highest and Best Use analysis points to a retail business. Commercial businesses are devoted to or include:

- buying and reselling
- providing services that support residential, agricultural, manufacturing or forest uses
- Apartments of four or more units
- Mobile home communities
- Stores with apartments above the store

Manufacturing property

Manufacturing property includes land, buildings, structures and other real property used in manufacturing, assembling, processing, fabricating, making or milling tangible personal property for profit. Manufacturing property also includes warehouses, storage facilities and office structures that support the manufacturing, and all raw materials, supplies, machinery, equipment, work in process and finished inventory located at the manufacturing site.

Manufacturing does not include on-farm processing if the raw materials are grown on the farm.

Forested property

This classification is Production Forests and DNR-MFL Forests acreages combined. In the Town of Ridgeway it is the second largest classified land use.

Undeveloped property

This classification refers to areas that were formerly classified as swamp/waste. It is open land that includes bogs, marshes, lowlands brush land, and uncultivated land zoned as shore land and shown to be wetland.

Other property

Remaining land types that do not fall into the above categories, including federal, state, and county lands, school property, and cemeteries, are classified as "other". Refer to Maps E.2 and E.8, Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resource Element, and Table H.1 for more information.

IDENTIFICATION OF LAND USE AREAS

The Town of Ridgeway Comprehensive Plan identifies land use areas in Section H of the plan, areas defined as places that make sense for future development. Map H.1 indicates the land use areas for future development in the Town.

REDEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

No redevelopment opportunities were identified by the Plan Commission.

EXISTENCE OF PROPERTIES WITH CONTAMINATED SOIL OR GROUNDWATER

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources maintains the Wisconsin Remediation and Redevelopment Database which includes the Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System (BRRTS). The database provides information about contaminated properties and other activities related to the investigation and cleanup of contaminated soil or groundwater in Wisconsin. The database includes information about investigations and cleanups of contaminated soil and groundwater, spills, Superfund sites and DNR funding assistance.

The following site is the only Town of Ridgeway location listed in the BRRTS database that currently requires the possibility of future action: the former 151 Express, 6189 HWY 151, Ridgeway, currently the site of Cedar Direct, 3350 County Road BB, Dodgeville. This is a closed investigation of a Leaking Underground Storage Tank, with an existing obligation for soil sampling and analysis in the event of future excavation to see if residual contamination remains.

The following site is a Village of Ridgeway location listed in the BRRTS database that currently requires future action. The Badger Mart at 408 Main Street, Ridgeway, is an ongoing open investigation of a Leaking Underground Storage Tank. The status of this investigation is currently listed as "remediation" with a closure request package being prepared.

In the event of a future hazardous materials spill in Ridgeway Township, the BRRTS database would be updated. The database is maintained by the DNR's Remediation and Redevelopment program and can be viewed at dnr.wi.gov/topic/Brownfields/Contact.html.

EXISTING AND POTENTIAL LAND USE CONFLICTS

There are a variety of land uses that can potentially cause land use conflicts. There are two common acronyms used to describe land use conflicts – NIMBY's (Not In My Back Yard) and LULU's (Locally Unwanted Land Uses). One of the most common occurrences, especially in a rural setting, is the presence of agricultural operations near non-farm populations.

The presence of agriculture and non-rural land use in close proximity often generates conflict due to potential incompatibility. Agriculture can affect adjoining small rural lots, which are used essentially for residential purposes. Similarly, the presence of small rural lots creates an adverse influence on the continued operation of agriculture enterprise. The issue of rural-urban conflict can arise when there is no separation between incompatible uses. Land use conflicts may arise in such situations through noise, odor, farm chemicals, light, visual amenity, dogs, stock damage and weed infestation, lack of

Potential Land Use Conflicts

- Landfills or Waste Facilities
- Jails or Prisons
- Halfway Houses or Group Homes
- Airports, Highways, Rail Lines
- Low Income Housing
- Strip Malls and Shopping Centers
- "Cell" Towers, Electrical Transmission Lines
- Large Livestock Operations
- Industrial or Manufacturing Operations

understanding, and lack of communication to name just a few.

Development along State Highway 151 is an undesirable land use in Ridgeway, although the Town does not perceive it as a land use conflict per se. Agriculture and open space are integral to Ridgeway's character. The Plan Commission does foresee subdivision development in the Town becoming a land use issue in the future, due to increased development pressure on agricultural lands.

INTEGRATED LAND USE

Certainly, education and communication at all levels is fundamental to land use conflict resolution. Finding a way to separate incompatible land uses while recognizing the benefits that can be achieved through land use integration is key. Integration may be achieved through physical separation or a simple vegetative buffer designed to screen one land use from another. Such practical strategies require landowners with potentially conflicting land uses to acknowledge their impacts and then design their operations or development to account for this impact. A community approach utilizing physical solutions, planning strategies, and a long-term vision for the land will enable multiple and differing land uses to exist.

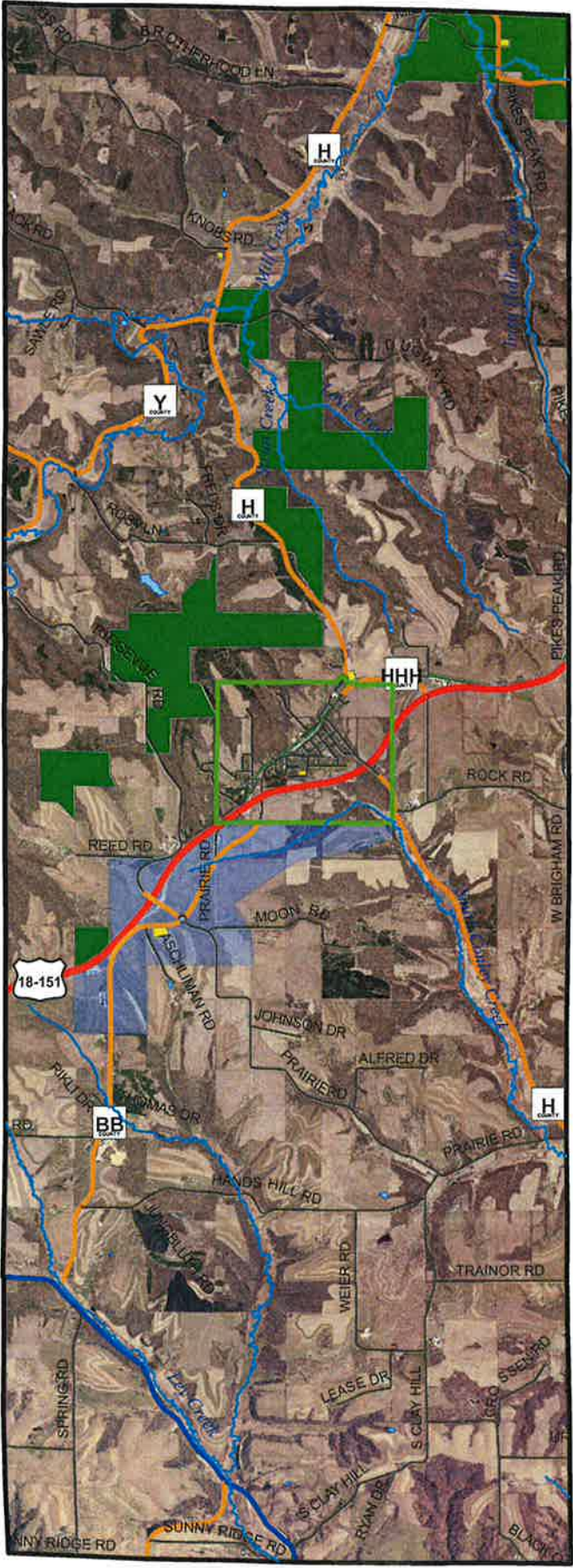
FUTURE LAND USE

Natural beauty, small-town atmosphere, and recreational opportunities were the top reasons why people choose to live in the Town of Ridgeway. It stands to reason that people in Ridgeway want to keep and improve their farms, maintain their homes and property, protect their investments, and improve their standard of living. However, agriculture promises to continue to change the future of farming; existing



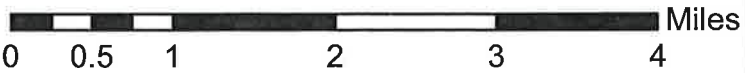
homes and buildings will need remodeling, repairs, or improvements; new buildings and homes will be constructed. In order to achieve its vision, Ridgeway needs to protect its natural beauty, preserve the small-town atmosphere, and continue to explore and expand recreational opportunities, while still supporting agriculture. This approach will help the Town continue to be a desirable place to live, work, and play.

Town of Ridgeway
 H.1 Revised
 August 2019



Legend

- Conservancy / Recreational
- Commercial, Manufacturing & Agricultural Development
- Cemeteries
- Town of Ridgeway
- Village of Ridgeway



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1977, SWWRPC staff and representatives from its five member counties conducted a thorough analysis of the region's transportation system. The report's goal was to: serve as a resource for the residents of southwest Wisconsin to use in analyzing transportation proposals; inform readers of the many varied and complex interrelationships evident in any transportation system; help determine where the emphasis should be placed in planning activities; and to provide a more comprehensive outlook when dealing with transportation problems.

In the intervening years, other transportation plans and reports have also looked at Iowa County and the region, resulting in many improvements to the transportation system.

This document is structured to provide historic context (see Map C.1 for early transportation routes in southwest Wisconsin) and to provide information on local issues within the transportation framework. Although many issues are presented in a regional context, the assertion made in the SWWRPC 1972 *Technical Report No. 4: Prospective for Regional Transportation Planning* holds true today: "It should be emphasized, however, that regional planning is not a substitute for local planning. On the contrary, regional planning is intended to strengthen local planning efforts by providing a more comprehensive base of information in a regional context in order to facilitate rational private and public decisions on the local level."

The advantage of using a regional context to inform local transportation planning is that the relationship to scale is reinforced. From this perspective, the Transportation Element provides historic and regional context, considers local transportation needs, and based on local input provides a 20-year jurisdictional plan that can serve as a resource guide and implementation tool.



Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(c)

(c) Transportation element.

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of the various modes of transportation, including highways, transit, transportation systems for persons with disabilities, bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, walking, railroads, air transportation, trucking and water transportation. The element shall compare the local governmental unit's objectives, policies, goals, and programs to state and regional transportation plans. The element shall also identify highways within the local governmental unit by function and incorporate state, regional and other applicable transportation plans, including transportation corridor plans, county highway functional and jurisdictional studies, urban area and rural area transportation plans, airport master plans and rail plans that apply in the local governmental unit.

Beginning on January 1, 2010, any program or action of a local governmental unit that affects land use shall be consistent with that local governmental unit's comprehensive plan, including ...

(m) An improvement of a transportation facility that is undertaken under s. 84.185.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

The following are the transportation policies of the Town of Ridgeway.

- **Local Transportation Infrastructure and Issues**
 - Create a bicycle route connector to Folklore Village and to nearby camping facilities.
- **Transit, Accessibility, and Special Needs Users**
 - Support the development and promotion of paratransit services for local residents.
- **Land Use**
 - Concern about the impact of growth on land use.
- **Cost**
 - Capital Improvement Program.
 - Maintenance and Improvement Funding Source.

TOWN OF RIDGEWAY

In reviewing the transportation survey responses that had been completed by residents, the Town of Ridgeway's Plan Commission identified the primary issues and concerns for this plan.

- The most satisfactory part of the Town of Ridgeway's existing transportation system is that town roads are kept in good driving condition.
- The least satisfactory aspect of the community's transportation system is that there is no public transportation.
- The aspect of the community's transportation system that respondents felt was most important to improve is that all gravel roads should be seal coated.

The Town of Ridgeway's Plan Commission respondents identified transportation projects or issues that they foresee in their jurisdiction.

- In the next 10 years: (no response)
- In the next 20 years (the planning window for the comprehensive planning process):
 1. Closing Cemetery Road access to USH 18/151
 2. Closing 151 Express' access to USH 18/151
- The Plan Commission respondents expressed concern about the impact of growth on land use. Traffic delays already occur at the access to USH 18/151 at Ridgeview, Pikes Peak, West Brigham, Cemetery, and Prairie Roads. The Plan Commission is unsure about what changes could alleviate the current level of congestion and about what steps to take to address future conflicts.
- In the Land Use Element, the Town of Ridgeway Plan Commission respondents expressed concern that development along the USH 18/151 corridor is not helping the jurisdiction to achieve its land use vision and should be discouraged. Concerns were raised about road access and sewerage disposal. Land uses that are encouraged are agriculture and open space.
- Data from the 2000 Census indicate that 24.8 percent of housing stock in the Town of Ridgeway was constructed between 1990 and March 2000. This is a higher percentage than the Village of Ridgeway and adjacent Towns of Arena and Wyoming. In Section B, Housing Element, Town of Ridgeway Plan Commission respondents cited heavy use on narrow, winding (and, in some cases, gravel surface) roads as concerns related to housing or business development in the Town of Ridgeway. Hands Hill Road was specifically identified as a road where scattered rural residential development is projected to exceed the capacity of the road.
- The town encourages new housing development to be in close proximity to the Village of Ridgeway. Although a cluster design is favored by the Plan Commission, such development would likely be single family homes in a predominantly rural setting. The Plan Commission does not consider sidewalks to be appropriate. In Section H, Land Use Element, subdivision development is seen as a potential land use conflict and concern was expressed about driveway density.

NEXT STEPS: The Town of Ridgeway coordinates with neighboring jurisdictions, Iowa County, and WisDOT. Careful consideration should be given when providing road access for new development. Input from WisDOT would be helpful in the planning process.

The next section looks more closely at the locally identified transportation issues. In reviewing the transportation survey responses that had been completed by residents, the Town of Ridgeway's Plan Commission respondents ranked the following transportation issues as having the highest priority for meeting local needs (#1 is the highest priority ranking):

1. **Transportation safety**
2. **Agricultural-vehicle mobility**
3. **Connectivity with the larger transportation system**
4. **Transportation to support economic development**
5. **Transportation needs of the elderly and disabled**
6. **Freight mobility**

These issues thread throughout the Town of Ridgeway's plan—including its housing, economic development, land use, and implementation elements. Although the scope of this plan is local, it recognizes that local planning is part of the mosaic that should inform WisDOT's vision and priorities for budgeting and planning. WisDOT also acknowledges the complexity of balancing these issues:

"Wisconsin's healthy economy has also caused increased commuter and commercial demand on local roads and streets. Much of the state's 100,000 miles of local roads are facing the same aging infrastructure needs as the state highways. Furthermore, an ever-increasing number of local roads are experiencing congestion problems as communities continue to grow. Because it is essential that state highways and local roads and streets work in unison, the state has to continue to provide funding to local units of governments to help support construction, improvement and maintenance of locally owned highways, roads, streets and bridges. As is the case with the state highway system, it is likely that demands on local roads and streets will continue to grow in the future (WisDOT)."

Like WisDOT, local governments grapple with these issues and constraints as they make decisions related to housing, development, schools, roads, and funding. A report entitled *The Evaluation of Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plans*, examined Wisconsin's Transportation Plans and concluded:

"Population growth alone is a challenge that is anticipated in many states. Wisconsin anticipates a 13 percent growth over the plan period [through 2020]. This will create additional demand on existing transportation facilities, along with requiring additional services. This need for services will be compounded by the fact that both its elderly and working age populations will be increasing, with their separate transportation needs" (prepared for the FHWA and US DOT, April 2002)."

2000 US Census for the Town of Ridgeway

Table C.1, drawn from transportation-related responses, is included because it provides some insights related to possible future needs.

- The age of residents is important—those under 15 do not drive; those over 62 may, at some point, be users of shared-ride transportation services. Data for Vehicles Available is also included.
- Employment Status and Work-at-Home numbers provide some perspective on commuting patterns, as does information on Commute Time and Time Leaving Home To Go To Work.
- Information on the Age of Housing Stock is included because housing construction yields increased trip generation and its impacts should be considered.

What future needs are indicated? How do they overlap? It can be difficult to answer these questions and it is more difficult without public input and participation. For WisDOT, this is not simply a goal—it's an obligation. As required by federal law, *"Environmental Justice"* requires public involvement efforts to reach out to minority and low-income populations.

Why? Because historically the interests of these groups have been ignored in transportation decision-making. In Iowa County a four-person household is considered to be *low-income* if it has a total annual income of \$18,100 or less/year. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 7.3 percent of Iowa County's residents are in this income category and WisDOT is required to make every effort to ensure that their input helps to inform transportation planning decisions.

Table C.1 – 2000 US Census Data

POPULATION	T Arena	T Dodgeville	T Ridgeway	V Ridgeway	T Waldwick	T Wyoming	Iowa Co.	Wisconsin
	1509	1501	590	694	530	324	22,780	5,363,675
AGE								
Percentage of the population under 15 years	19.8%	23.5%	23.7%	22.4%	20.3%	19.4%	22.0%	21.0%
Percentage of the population age 62 or older	12.2%	14.6%	12.4%	12.1%	17.9%	9.3%	15.5%	15.4%
Median age (in years)	38.2	40.1	38.0	34.4	36.6	42.2	37.1	36.1
EMPLOYMENT STATUS								
Employed percentage in the workforce (age 16 & older)	72.0%	75.1%	72.7%	73.9%	74.1%	75.9%	72.5%	65.8%
Unemployed percentage in the workforce	3.9%	1.3%	4.5%	3.4%	3.4%	3.9%	3.0%	3.2%

Percentage residents in the labor force working at home:	7.8%	13.2%	16.4%	3.4%	23.3%	11.5%	8.4%	3.9%
Percentage who drove to work alone	76.3%	72.5%	71.1%	77.6%	55.1%	75.9%	74.6%	79.5%
Percentage who carpooled	13.8%	10.6%	10.4%	16.5%	15.6%	11.5%	12.6%	9.9%
2-person carpool	10.8%	7.7%	9.1%	10.1%	12.3%	5.2%	9.5%	8.1%
3-person carpool	2.4%	1.4%	0.6%	4.6%	3.0%	3.7%	1.8%	1.2%
4-person carpool	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.8%	0.3%	0.0%	0.6%	0.4%
5- or 6-person carpool	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%
7-or-more-person carpool	0.6%	0.0%	0.6%	1.0%	0.0%	2.6%	0.4%	0.1%
Public transportation	0.2%	0.2%	0.9%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	2.0%
Motorcycle	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Bicycle	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%
Walked	1.7%	2.4%	1.3%	2.1%	4.3%	1.0%	3.8%	3.7%
Other means	0.2%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%

COMMUTE TIME TO WORK								
Less than 10 minutes	8.6%	28.1%	7.9%	10.1%	12.1%	13.0%	25.7%	20.7%
10-14 minutes	13.2%	22.5%	16.2%	16.3%	8.2%	13.6%	13.8%	18.4%
15-19 minutes	7.9%	15.2%	21.4%	14.9%	8.7%	14.8%	11.2%	17.0%
20-24 minutes	8.3%	6.3%	10.9%	7.7%	34.2%	13.6%	10.7%	14.4%
25-29 minutes	7.8%	3.3%	0.8%	5.1%	5.2%	5.3%	4.8%	6.2%
30-34 minutes	12.1%	5.3%	2.3%	9.3%	10.4%	3.0%	8.2%	9.6%
35-44 minutes	16.8%	3.3%	8.3%	14.1%	5.2%	3.6%	7.3%	4.7%
45-59 minutes	20.6%	8.1%	22.9%	19.7%	10.0%	16.0%	9.8%	4.6%
60-89 minutes	4.2%	4.7%	7.5%	2.1%	4.8%	13.6%	6.3%	2.6%
90 or more minutes	0.5%	3.3%	1.9%	0.5%	1.3%	3.6%	2.2%	1.7%
Mean travel time to work (in minutes)	29.5	23.1	29.5	26.9	24.8	33.9	24.7	20.8

TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK

5:00 to 5:59 a.m.	14.9%	11.9%	16.9%	14.9%	15.6%	15.4%	12.5%	9.6%
-------------------	-------	-------	--------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------

Table C.1 (cont.) – 2000 US Census Data

TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK								
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.	14.9%	8.6%	13.5%	21.6%	11.3%	9.5%	12.0%	8.9%
6:30 to 6:59 a.m.	10.3%	13.2%	7.5%	8.3%	14.7%	10.7%	11.4%	11.7%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.	20.1%	15.9%	16.9%	16.3%	15.6%	21.3%	15.5%	14.3%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.	14.2%	19.9%	15.8%	9.6%	8.2%	17.2%	15.6%	15.7%
8:00 to 8:29 a.m.	7.8%	8.6%	6.0%	6.4%	7.8%	7.1%	7.1%	8.0%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.	2.3%	3.0%	1.5%	0.5%	3.9%	1.2%	2.5%	3.7%
9:00 to 11:59 a.m.	2.5%	4.5%	4.9%	5.3%	2.2%	4.7%	5.3%	6.7%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.	3.4%	4.9%	5.3%	5.3%	3.5%	1.8%	6.7%	9.0%
All other times	9.6%	9.5%	11.7%	11.7%	17.3%	11.2%	11.4%	12.3%

Housing constructed between 1990 to March 2000	18.5%	27.1%	24.8%	16.0%	17.8%	22.3%	17.6%	16.4%
1940 to 1989	55.7%	41.7%	40.2%	47.9%	38.3%	35.5%	45.7%	60.0%
1939 or earlier	25.8%	31.2%	35.0%	36.1%	43.9%	42.2%	36.7%	23.6%

None	1.4%	4.0%	1.0%	7.7%	0.0%	3.7%	4.5%	7.9%
One	18.0%	15.2%	14.6%	32.8%	24.0%	12.6%	26.7%	32.5%
Two	44.1%	52.1%	54.4%	37.2%	48.0%	54.1%	43.6%	41.5%
Three or more	36.4%	28.6%	30.1%	22.3%	28.1%	29.6%	25.2%	18.1%

Median reported 1999 household income (in dollars)	\$51,042	\$49,327	\$50,938	\$41,548	\$39,271	\$48,438	\$42,518	\$43,791
--	----------	----------	-----------------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE & ISSUES

The initial comprehensive planning survey, yielded these responses from the residents of the Town of Ridgeway:

- Ninety-one percent agreed or strongly agreed that Iowa County's overall road network (roads, streets, and highways) meets the needs of its citizens.
- Eighty-three percent agreed or strongly agreed that the condition of local roads in the Town of Ridgeway is adequate for intended uses.

Transportation Modes

Plan Commission respondents were asked to identify the transportation modes that currently use public infrastructure within the Town of Ridgeway (in addition to personal cars, trucks, and motorcycles). They are identified below with an **X**.

MODE		Used	Not Used
Travel	Carpooling Para-transit (shared-ride, taxi)	X	X
Agriculture	Tractors ATVs (all terrain vehicles)	X X	
Recreation	Bicycles ATVs	X X	
Freight	Trucking Rail	X	X

Existing Roadways

The Town of Ridgeway has 65.53 miles of roads:

- 16.78 miles of County Trunk Highways
- 48.75 miles of Local Roads

The most heavily trafficked road through the jurisdiction is, of course, USH 18/151; it is classified on the County's rural functional highway system as a principal arterial. , which is classified on the County's rural functional highway system as a major collector. CTH H, north of the Village of Ridgeway, connects with USH 14 and is classified on the County's rural functional highway system as a major collector. For more information, see Maps C.2, C.3 and C.4 and Table C-2a and C-2b.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Transportation is a factor in location decisions of commercial and industrial development. In locations where the development is included in local plans, communities should also assess their transportation infrastructure and determine what future improvements may be needed. Communication, during this planning process and when unforeseen development opportunities arise, should include WisDOT, adjacent governmental units, as well as interested parties and other stakeholders. The value of local plans is that they inform county, regional, and state plans and this coordination can help to identify the transportation facilities needed by future development.

The Town of Ridgeway's Plan Commission respondents were asked whether their existing local transportation system does a good job of meeting the needs of the jurisdiction's economic development goals related to

- | | |
|-------------------|----------|
| • Agriculture | Yes |
| • Retail/Commerce | Not Sure |
| • Shipping | Yes |
| • Manufacturing | Yes |
| • Tourism | Yes |

ENVIRONMENT

Transportation and construction projects can impact the natural environment around a project area. When making short- and long-term transportation decisions, it is important to adequately address environmental implications on air quality and energy consumption; agricultural lands; and wetlands and wildlife. To minimize these effects, efforts to preserve the environment of a project area can include:

- Wetland mitigation (preservation, creation, enhancement and restoration)
- Prairie restoration
- Archeological work
- Hazardous waste management
- De-icing procedures and salt reduction
- Storm water management
- Noise monitoring and noise walls
- Nesting boxes
- Erosion control

One aspect of this is to manage stormwater run-off from transportation facilities. Additionally, transportation improvements and community development decisions should be coordinated and the impacts that each has on the other should be considered.

The Town of Ridgeway Plan Commission requested more information about environmental impacts of transportation decision-making. For more information on this topic, see Appendix C-1 and Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Element.

AESTHETICS

The 40-mile Military Ridge State Trail runs through the Town of Ridgeway, along the former Chicago and North Western Railroad corridor. The limestone-surfaced trail is open to hikers, bicyclists, and wheelchair users in late spring, summer, and fall and snowmobilers and cross-country skiers in the winter. There are several observation platforms adjacent to the trail for viewing wetlands, wildlife, and other natural features. In Ridgeway, the trail passes by a historic railroad depot.

Bike Trails, in the Town of Ridgeway, were rated good or excellent by 67 percent of survey respondents. According to the Iowa County Bicycling Conditions map (see the *Bicycle Trails & Road Improvements* section of this document) most county roads in the Town of Ridgeway are rated “best conditions for bicycling.” Of Town of Ridgeway survey respondents who expressed an opinion, only 46 percent indicated that they agreed or strongly agreed that there should be more biking and walking lanes along public roadways. See Appendix C-2 for more information. See Maps C-6 and C.7 for more information.

TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES & FUTURE PROJECTS – BICYCLE ACCESS

One bicycle-related improvement that has been suggested by WisDOT staff would create an access point onto the Military Ridge Trail at CTH BB. This would provide a bicycle route connector to Folklore Village and to nearby camping facilities.

NEXT STEP: Coordinate with Folklore Village, local camping facilities, SWWRPC, and WisDOT to further explore this option.

TRANSIT, ACCESSIBILITY, and SPECIAL NEEDS USERS

As noted elsewhere in this document, options in Iowa County are limited. According to the 2000 US Census, 10.4 percent of Town of Ridgeway residents carpool to work and 0.6 percent of this group appear, from the data, to utilize the State of Wisconsin Van Pool Service. This program, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, currently operates seven vans that make stops in Iowa County and one of these routes has a pick-up point in Ridgeway.

Although limited, transportation for the elderly and disabled is provided by the Iowa County Commission on Aging. WisDOT’s report *Transportation in Wisconsin: a Vision for the 21st Century* projects that by 2020 the number of state residents over 65 will increase by more than 50 percent. Wisconsin has funded a share of local transit operating costs since 1974. Today, state aid is the largest source of funding for Wisconsin’s 69 public transit systems—covering more than 40 percent of eligible operating costs. These transit operating aids topped \$251 million in the 2003-05 biennium. According to WisDOT, Wisconsin is ranked 7th nationally in the level of state support for transit operating costs. However, the state’s aging rural population will be likely to require more transportation options. See Map C.5 for more information.

PRIORITIES & FUTURE PROJECTS – TRANSIT**Support the development and promotion of paratransit services for local residents.**

The Town of Ridgeway’s Plan Commission respondents were concerned that the current level of service for the elderly and disabled is insufficient to meet current and future needs.

NEXT STEPS: Work with the Iowa County Commission on Aging to better-promote existing services and to support expanded services.

LAND USE

The land use and transportation relationship is cyclical, beginning when population and economic growth create demand for land development. New development results in more vehicle trips and places greater demand on surrounding streets, roads, and highways. This is a complex interrelationship. As a WisDOT report acknowledges,

“WisDOT influences land development mostly through the provision of infrastructure. Some transportation-related regulations also may have an effect. For state transportation, the effects on surrounding land uses are often more unintentional than intentional ... the most significant role that transportation plays in land development is affecting access to land.”

Some land use trend indicators include:

- Past and projected population growth
- Employment trends by sector
- Residential housing permits housing prices over the last 5-10 years
- Population densities changes: persons/acre; households/acre; commercial persons/acre use (indicating rate of land consumption)
- Conversion of age-land to non-age-land uses and comparison with the land sale prices land remaining in age (indicating stability of age-uses)
- Participation in Farmland Preservation Program (indicating stability of age-uses)
- Septic system permits (indicating development in unsewered areas)
- Changes (or requests) to expand sewer service areas (indicating expansion of urban service areas)
- Commuting patterns (indicating the relationship between employment and residential land uses)

(From Land Use in Environmental Documents: Indirect and Cumulative Effects Analysis for Project-Induced Land Development. WisDOT, 1993)

Local government plans, in conjunction with a zoning ordinance, attempt to direct residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural uses to the most appropriate part of the community. When coordination is lacking or inadequate, the outcome can cause congestion and increase the chance for crashes. Retrofitting transportation facilities for enhanced mobility and safety is difficult for local governments and WisDOT. For more information, see Appendix C-3.

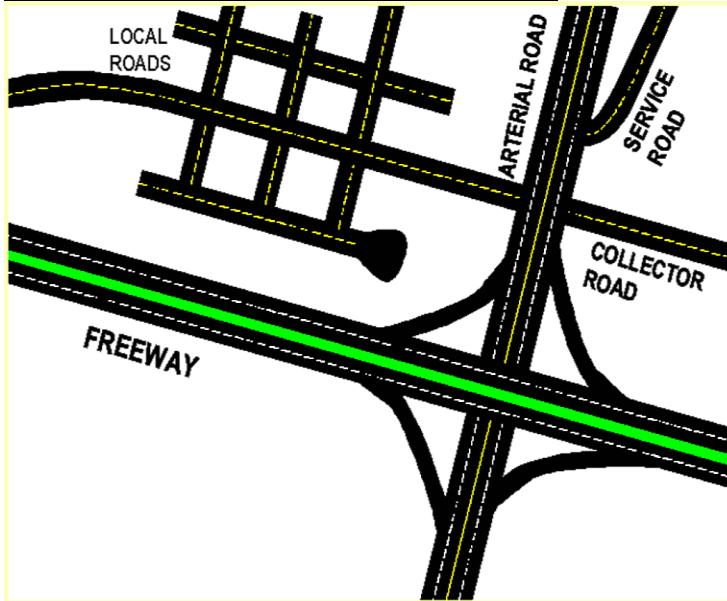
But realistically, given the cyclical nature of the transportation-land use relationship, when transportation improvements alleviate congestion, the newly developed land may become even more accessible, resulting in higher land values and greater pressure to develop adjacent, undeveloped land. The cycle begins again with more intensive levels of development and greater transportation demands. These pressures are being felt in eastern Iowa County. Although some parts of the county are not seeing growth, they may anticipate continued spillover that will have an impact on local development and infrastructure within the 20-year planning window.

Coordination with local governments and WisDOT can serve to address future mobility needs by looking at the potential impacts of planned development. If plans indicate that increased capacity will be needed, it can be incorporated into the transportation plan for that area. If this communication occurs during the planning process, coordination can help to ensure that more options are considered. One of the tools that can help to assess alternatives is to conduct a traffic impact analysis, looking at possible scenarios.

Ideally, WisDOT is included in the local planning process and effective planning helps the community to realize its local goals for development, efficiency, and safety, while minimizing environmental impacts. This can save both money and time, over the long- and short-term. When developments are planned and sited with adequate transportation facilities the community benefits. Land is developed more efficiently if proximity to other development and to transportation infrastructure. WisDOT (and the taxpayers) benefit because transportation investments continue to function throughout their projected life cycle and the public gets the best return on its tax investment.

The community can plan for areas of new business and housing development that will be served by a system of local roads or streets. Rather than wait for a developer proposal, the comprehensive planning process is an opportunity for the community to lay out a logical system of collectors and local roads in undeveloped areas within the jurisdiction's boundaries. The community can potentially alter the plan to suit a particular development's needs and still uphold an overall plan that ensures efficient and safe connectivity. If there are questions during the planning process about the access management implications of a proposed development, coordination with WisDOT early in the process can help minimize future conflicts. See Appendix C-4 for more information.

ENHANCING & IMPROVING CONNECTIVITY



Access management attempts to minimize conflicts by coordinating land development access, while preserving the flow of traffic on the surrounding road system in terms of safety, capacity, and speed. The main function of access management is to establish a balance between the existing traffic flow and highway access. It is achieved through managing the design and location of driveways, median openings, and points of access to the state highway system. The level of highway access control is based on the importance of the highway to regional and statewide travel as determined through a functional classification system. Although controversial in some jurisdictions, its primary goal is to ensure highway safety and to sustain the efficiency of the transportation system so costly retrofits don't have to be made later.

EFFICIENCY & SAFETY

A 1980 report entitled *Access Control* explained the rationale for the state's access management regulations:

"The highly interdependent relationship that exists between land use and highways makes it necessary for the planning of each to be coordinated with the other. ... A property system must provide access to property and safe, efficient movement of traffic from one place to another. Both of these functions cannot easily be provided on the same street or highway. Vehicles entering or leaving the roadway slow traffic and cause congestion. Congested streets or highways handle less traffic than if traffic were moving freely. In addition, congestion imposes increased travel costs on users in the form of longer travel time and greater operating costs, higher accident rates, and loss of the public investment in the street or highway because its traffic carrying capacity is reduced. Access control can provide an effective and low cost means of abating the harmful effects of congestion. Five direct advantages are afforded by controlling access:

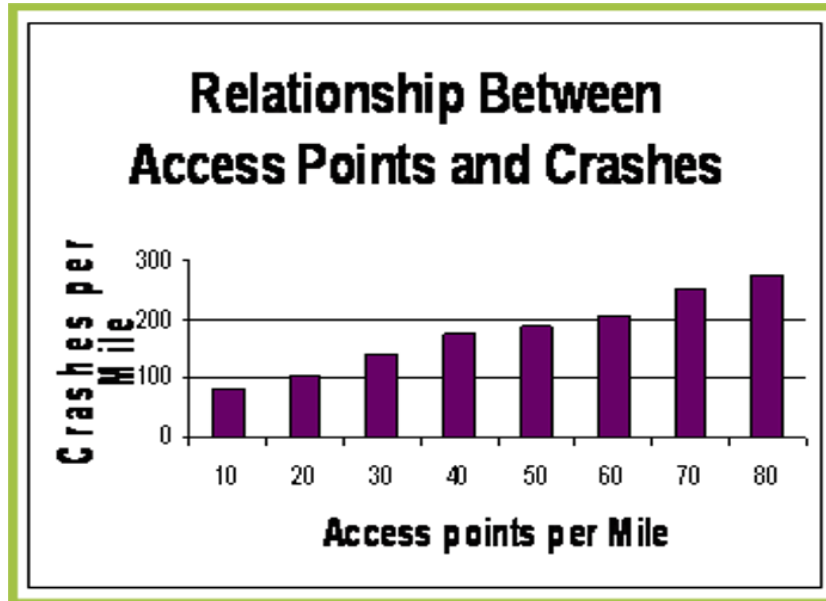
- *Preservation of the capacity and integrity of the roadway*
- *Reduction of travel times*
- *Improved safety and driving conditions*
- *Economy of operation*
- *And protection of the public investment in streets and highways.*

In contrast, relieving congestion by building new streets and highways [and bypasses] is becoming increasingly less desirable as it becomes more and more difficult to acquire the necessary rights-of-way and to find public funds to pay high construction costs. Continued new construction also consumes extensive amounts of land that may more profitably be put to other uses. ... Like it or not, none of us have an absolute unlimited right to use our land in any manner we please. We must take into consideration the impact that our use of land and land rights will have on others, both our immediate neighbors and the general public. Thus, if use of the right of access creates harmful interference with the public right to travel on a street or highway by increasing congestion and the likelihood of having an accident, the right of access may be regulated..."

Since 1980, when the quoted report was written, development pressures have only increased. Perhaps the reason that crash data has decreased is that jurisdictions have worked to ensure the safety of corridor routes is preserved.

Nonetheless, access management has been a contentious issue and some people believe that the regulations impede development. Efforts to repeal Administrative Rule 233 came to fruition in 2004. Doubtlessly, there are examples where the implementation of the regulation had been less than ideal.

However, congestion, caused by poor planning, and the resulting loss of the efficiency of a roadway may make development less attractive. On a human scale, the most important issue and the greatest responsibility is to ensure safety. For more information, see Maps C.8 (Access Management), C.9 (Setbacks), and C.10 (Iowa County Traffic Counts) and Tables C-3a and C-3b (Motor Vehicle Crash data for the Town of Ridgeway) at the end of this Section and in Appendix C-5.



MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS

Each year WisDOT completes 350 to 400 state highway projects, costing an average of \$1.5 million each. In addition, WisDOT returns more than \$500 million to local governments to help finance the operation and improvement of locally-owned roads, streets and bridges. According to WisDOT, highways and bridges face increasing pressures as more traffic and larger trucks cause more wear and tear. At this time, more than 30 percent of the state’s highway pavement and 10 percent of bridges are deemed to require rebuilding or replacement. WisDOT projects that even with proper maintenance, the average pavement life is approximately 40 years and the average life of a bridge is about 70 years. Almost the entire highway system and a significant number of bridges will need to be replaced by 2020.

At the time that this plan is being written, local communities receive one-third of state transportation funds. Transportation aids to local communities include funds for local road construction and maintenance, bridge improvements, capital assistance for airports, rail and harbor facilities, flood damage, expressway policing, and transit operating assistance. General Transportation Aids (GTA) are distributed to every town, village, city, and county in the state to help offset the cost of maintaining and improving the local road and street system. This is the largest category of local aid. In the 2003-05 state budget, GTA funding totals \$747 million. See Tables C.4 and C.5 and Maps C.11a and C.11b at the end of this Section for more information.

Reconstruction

- Completely rebuilds road
- Flattens curves and hills
- Widens pavement and shoulders
- Improves safety and rideability
- May require some land acquisition

Reconditioning

- Involves reconditioning plus resurfacing
- Retains existing pavement core
- Improves roadside-shoulder widening and ditch restoration
- Improves isolated deficient curves, hill crests, intersections

Resurfacing

- Includes new pavement and gravel shoulders (includes base patching)
- May include intersections paving
- Places beam guards where needed
- Highway needing improvement:
- Maintains specific areas of potholes, extensive cracking, uneven pavement, low shoulders and rutting

—WisDOT

A WisDOT pilot program is underway to encourage local government officials and WisDOT district staff to jointly evaluate potential local projects before they apply to WisDOT for funding.

The purpose of this effort is to improve program stability by providing accurate cost estimates and realistic delivery timelines for local highway and bridge projects at the outset, saving both local governments and WisDOT time and money in delivering local transportation projects.



According to the UW-Madison Transportation Information Center, by using the PASER system and Roadware software, municipalities can determine budget parameters, select possible projects, and evaluate the implications of maintenance decisions.

The Town of Ridgeway uses the state's PASER (**PA**vement **SUR**face **EVA**luation & **R**ating) system and reported that the system has been a useful tool for selecting projects and local budgeting.

COST

For many local governments, maintenance of the local road system is the single largest expenditure category. Privatization is often touted, but to-date, only a small handful of Wisconsin cities and villages (less than 1 percent) have privatized street repair and maintenance. A more common municipal practice in Wisconsin is contracting with county highway departments for certain types of repairs and maintenance, ranging from complete contracting to cooperative projects. Not surprisingly, development can add new demands for services and increase local costs without providing comparable increase in revenues. (Taken, in part, from UW-Extension *Fact Sheet #2: Comparison of Service Production Methods and the Incidence of Privatization*.)

In both 2003 and 2004, the Town of Ridgeway was budgeted to receive \$88,968.75 in General Transportation Aids and Connecting Highway Aids. See Table C-6 at the end of this Section for more information.

FUTURE PROJECTS & PRIORITIES - COST

Maintenance & Improvements

The State of Wisconsin's Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) is a reimbursement program and pays up to 50 percent of total eligible project costs, with the balance matched by the local unit of government. Towns are eligible under the Town Road Improvement Program (TRIP). Eligible projects include (but are not limited to) asphalt purchasing, bridge replacement or rehabilitation, design or feasibility studies, reconstruction, and resurfacing. LRIP is a biennial program. See Tables C-7a and C-7b, as well as Appendix C-6 for more information.

Capital Improvement Program

Many municipalities use a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to assist in planning for major project costs. A CIP is a multi-year scheduling of physical public improvements, based on the examination of available fiscal resources, as well as the prioritization of specific public improvements, to be constructed for a period of five to six years into the future. Capital improvements are those that include new or expanded physical facilities that are relatively large in size, expensive, and permanent. Street improvements, public libraries, water and sewer lines, and park and recreation facilities are common examples of capital improvements. See Appendix C-7 for more information.

The Town of Ridgeway currently does not have a Capital Improvement Plan, but respondents expressed interest in creating a capital improvement program and requested more information.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this section is to inventory existing utilities and community facilities in the Town of Ridgeway. Utilities and community facilities, often referred to as public works, is the physical infrastructure that allows a community to function and grow. Community facilities may include libraries, municipal offices, schools, police stations, fire stations, parks, etc. Many of the community facilities are supported by utilities including water services, sewer system, stormwater drainage, electricity, etc. This section also includes projections of when the municipalities may need to upgrade utilities in order to efficiently and effectively support the needs of the population.



Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(d)

(d) Utilities and Community Facilities

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in the local governmental unit such as sanitary sewer service, storm water management, water supply, solid waste disposal, on-site wastewater treatment technologies, recycling facilities, parks, telecommunications facilities, power-generating plants and transmission lines, cemeteries, health care facilities, child care facilities and other public facilities, such as police, fire and rescue facilities, libraries, schools and other governmental facilities. The element shall describe the location, use and capacity of existing public utilities and community facilities that serve the local governmental unit, shall include an approximate timetable that forecasts the need in the local governmental unit to expand or rehabilitate existing utilities and facilities or to create new utilities and facilities and shall assess future needs for government services in the local governmental unit that are related to such utilities and facilities.

UTILITY AND COMMUNITY FACILITY POLICIES

The following are the utilities and facilities policies for the Town of Ridgeway.

- **Encourage well testing as a means of protecting drinking water supplies for private, individual well users.**

The responsibility for safe drinking water from private wells resides with the homeowner. However, providing reminders (perhaps through a mailing) and encouraging residents to have their wells checked can be a useful way for the Town to help protect public health.

There are a variety of contaminants that can be in well water and testing for them depends on the type and toxicity of the contaminant. At a minimum, all private wells should be checked annually for Coliform bacteria and nitrates. Other contaminants such as pesticides, lead, copper, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), arsenic, radium, boron, radon, and fluoride are tested on differing schedules, some on an as need basis, others only once for the life of the well.

- **Educate landowners on the management and maintenance of private septic systems.**

Remind Town residents to be aware of the requirements of their septic systems, as all need inspection and maintenance in order to function properly.

- **Develop a stormwater management strategy to protect ground and drinking water supplies.**

A Town level stormwater management strategy could outline recommendations and techniques to reduce soil erosion, retain or create buffer strips near surface waters, educate the public on non-point source pollution, emphasize conservation agricultural practices, and other such activities that all help reduce the amount of runoff entering the hydrologic system.

- **Develop a strategy for siting telecommunication (“cell”) towers.**

Identifying ahead of time what locations are most suitable and desirable for telecommunication towers will give the Town some measure of control in where towers are placed in the community. This can help prevent towers being placed in locations that are offensive aesthetically or create negative impacts on the local environment.

- **Ensure that new development bears a fair share of capital improvement costs necessitated by the development.**

When approving new developments, be aware of the costs attributed to public works projects such as road or bridge improvements.

- **Guide new growth to areas that are most efficiently served with utilities.**

Extending public utilities (roads, water, sewer) to new development can be very expensive, especially if the development is far from the existing infrastructure. Refer to Section H, Land Use Element for recommended housing development locations in the Town.

PUBLIC UTILITIES**WATER SYSTEM STATISTICS**

Private wells supply approximately 206 households and nine businesses in Ridgeway.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

Private septic systems treat wastewater from approximately 206 households and nine businesses in the Town of Ridgeway.

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICTS

There are no special service districts in Ridgeway.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

The Town of Ridgeway does not have a stormwater management strategy.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

See Map D.1 at the end of this section for locations of community facilities and utilities.

POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Town of Ridgeway police protection is provided by the Iowa County Sheriff Department. The Ridgeway Fire Department provides fire protection and rescue services are provided by the Barneveld Rescue Squad and the Ridgeway First Responders.

RECYCLING AND GARBAGE

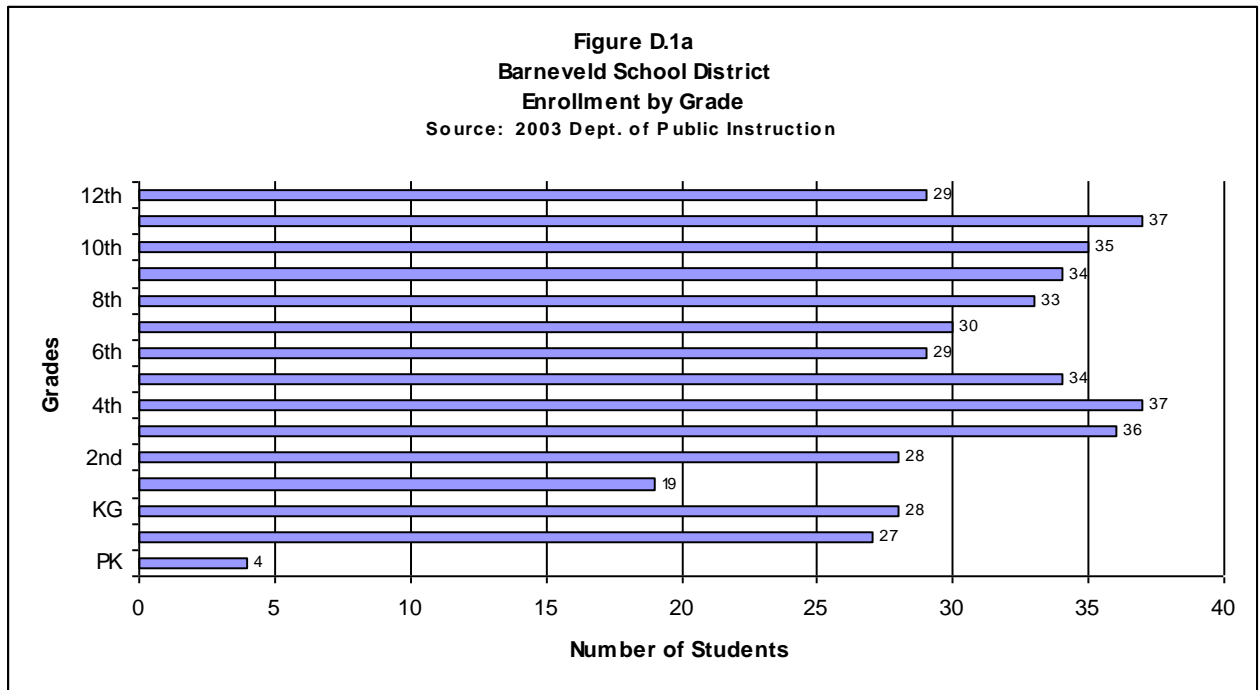
The Town of Ridgeway has curbside collection for garbage, picked up at driveways every other week. Recyclables are picked up on non-garbage pickup weeks.

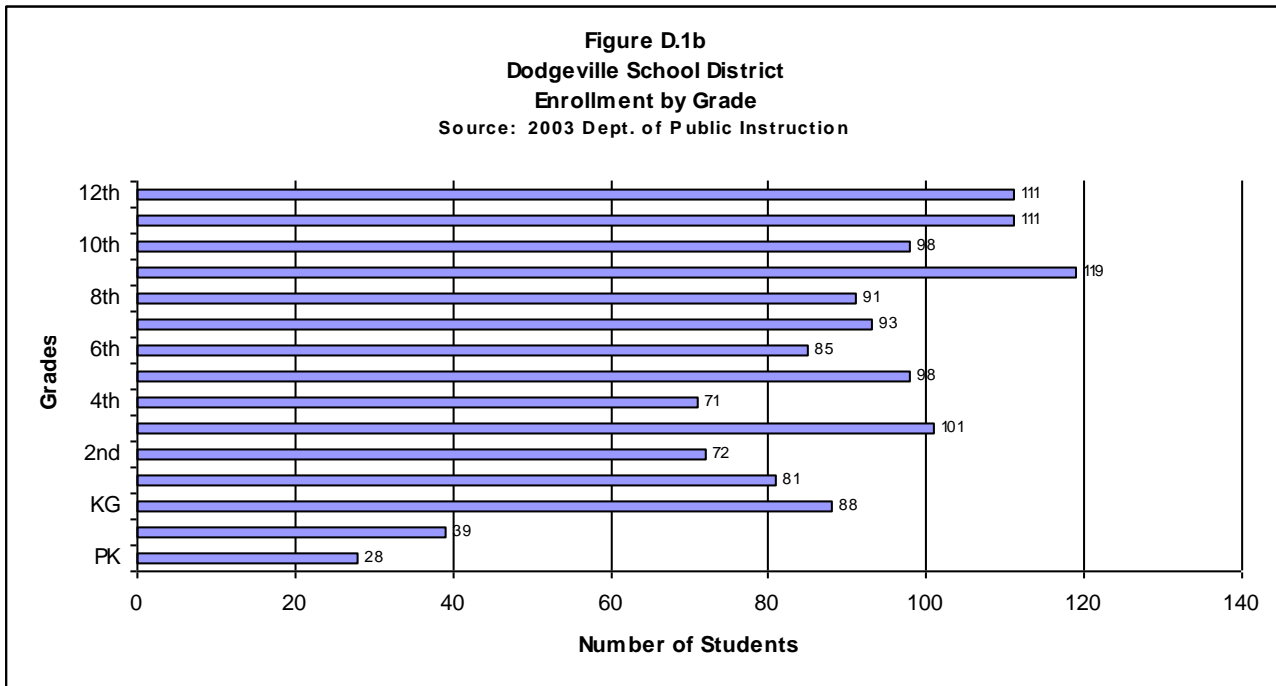
MUNICIPAL BUILDING/ LIBRARY SERVICES

The Town of Ridgeway Municipal Building and Shop are located near the Village of Ridgeway. Residents of the Town use the City of Dodgeville public library.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

There are no education facilities within the Town of Ridgeway, although an elementary school is located in the Village of Ridgeway. Pre-K – 12 education for Town children is provided through the Dodgeville and the Barneveld School Districts. According to Department of Public Education data, in 2003-2004 the Dodgeville School District had 1286 students and the Barneveld School District had 440. Figure D.1a and D.1b below show the enrollment by grade in each District. See Map D.2 for all school districts in Iowa County.





HIGHER EDUCATION

The colleges and universities nearest the Town of Ridgeway include Southwest Wisconsin Technical College in Fennimore, UW-Madison, and UW-Platteville. These institutions offer certificates, technical diplomas, associate, bachelor, and master’s degrees in a variety of fields.

HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

There are no healthcare facilities located within the Town of Ridgeway. However, residents do have access to healthcare providers such as the Upland Hills Health Hospital in Dodgeville. Town residents use medical clinics located in Dodgeville, Barneveld, Hollandale, and Spring Green. The Plan Commission did not identify any other medical facilities available to Town residents. See Appendix D-3 for healthcare facilities in southwest Wisconsin.

CEMETERIES

Please refer to Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resource Element for information on local cemeteries.

CHILDCARE

The Plan Commission did not identify any childcare facilities in or serving the Town of Ridgeway.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Please refer to Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resource Element for information on local parks and recreation facilities.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER UTILITIES

There are no telecommunication towers in the Town of Ridgeway, but the Town Board has made a motion to allow location of a future cell tower on Town owned land near where the Town Hall and Shop are located.

COMMUNITY FACILITY/UTILITY PROJECTS

Currently, Ridgeway does not have any upcoming community facility/utility projects.

UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITY AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS

There are a number of state and federal agencies and programs to assist communities with public works projects. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs. Contact information is provided for each agency. To find out more specific information or which program best fits your needs contact the agency directly.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – RURAL DEVELOPMENT (USDA-RD) COMMUNITY FACILITIES DIRECT GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

The community facilities grant program provides grants to assist the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 people. The objective of the agency is to construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community facilities providing essential services to rural residents. This can include the purchase of equipment required for a facility's operation. All projects funded by the RHS grant program must be for public use.

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF WISCONSIN

4949 Kirschling Ct
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Phone: (715) 345-7615
FAX: (715) 345-7669

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wi/>
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/>

COMMUNITY FACILITIES GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM

The community facilities loan program is similar to the grant program in that it provides funding for essential community facilities, such as schools, roads, fire halls, etc. Again, local jurisdictions must have a population of less than 20,000 to apply. Applications are funded based on a statewide priority point system. For more information on the loan program, visit the USDA-RD website or call the office listed above.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE (RUS)

There are a number of available programs through USDA-RUS as part of the Water and Environmental Programs (WEP). WEP provides loans, grants, and loan guarantees for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, and storm drainage facilities in rural areas and cities and towns of 10,000 or less. Public bodies, non-profit organizations, and recognized Native American Tribes may qualify for assistance. WEP also makes grants to non-profit organizations to provide technical assistance and training to assist rural communities with their water, wastewater, and solid waste programs. Some of the available programs include:

- Water and Waste Disposal Direct and Guaranteed Loans
- Water and Waste Disposal Grants
- Technical Assistance and Training Grants
- Solid Waste Management Grants
- Rural Water Circuit Ride Technical Assistance

More detailed information can be obtained on any of the above programs by contacting USDA Rural Development Office.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES BUREAU OF COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (DNR-CFA)

The Bureau of Community Assistance administers a number of grant and loan programs. The Bureau supports projects that protect public health and the environment and provide recreational opportunities. The Bureau has three major areas of programs, which include the following:

- **Environmental Loans**

This is a loan program for drinking water, wastewater, and Brownfield projects.

- **Environmental Financial Assistance Grants**

This is a grant program for non-point source runoff pollution, recycling, lakes, rivers, municipal flood control, and well compensation.

- **Land & Recreation Financial Assistance Grants**

This is a grant program for conservation, restoration, parks, stewardship, acquisition of land and easements for conservation purposes, recreational facilities and trails, hunter education, forestry, forest fire protection, household hazardous waste collection, dam rehabilitation and abandonment, dry cleaner remediation, and urban wildlife damage.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WI-DNR)

101 S Webster St
Madison WI 53703

Phone: 608-266-2621
Fax: 608-261-4380

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us>

These are the major program headings. There are numerous programs available for specific projects underneath these umbrella programs. For example, under the Environmental Loans Program, there is the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP). The SDWLP provides loans to public water systems to build, upgrade, or replace water supply infrastructure. For more detailed information on other programs, contact the Wisconsin DNR or visit the website listed above.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PUBLIC FACILITIES (CDBG-PF)

This program is designed to assist small communities with public facility improvements. Eligible activities would include publicly owned utility system improvements, streets, sidewalks, disability accessibility projects, and community centers. Local governments including towns, cities, and counties are eligible. Federal grant funds are made available on an annual basis. The maximum grant for any single applicant is \$750,000. Grants are only available up to the amount that is adequately justified and documented with engineering or vendor estimates.

WISCONSIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PUBLIC FACILITIES (CDBG-PFED)

This program helps underwrite the cost of municipal infrastructure necessary for business development. This program requires that the result of the project will ultimately induce businesses, create jobs, and invest in the community. More information is available from the Wisconsin Department of Commerce.

**WI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

**PO Box 7970
Madison, WI 53707
Phone: 608-266-8934
Fax: 608-266-8969**

**<http://www.commerce.state.wi.us>
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/>**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the Town of Ridgeway continues to grow, it is vital that it keep in mind the agricultural, natural, and cultural resources of the area. It can be very challenging for rural communities to allow new low-density development and at the same time protect the natural environment and preserve the character of the area, including cultural and historic resources. At first, development may have only a limited impact on the natural landscape, but as development continues, the visual and environmental impacts become more and more apparent. For these reasons, it is crucial to be aware of the existing agricultural, natural, and cultural resources.

There are a number of agricultural, natural, and cultural resources to be aware of as we plan for the future, including the following:

Agricultural Resources

Natural Resources

Cultural Resources

Number of Farms

Water Resources

Historic Buildings

Acreage of Farmland

Topography

Museums

Livestock

Geologic Resources

Landmarks

Crop Production

Forest / Woodlands

Churches

Farmland Potential

Wildlife Habitat

Rural Schools

Soil Capabilities

Parks and Open Space

Cemeteries

Soils

Air and Light



Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(e)

(e) Agricultural, natural and cultural resources element

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for the conservation, and promotion of the effective management, of natural resources such as groundwater, forests, productive agricultural areas, environmentally sensitive areas, threatened and endangered species, stream corridors, surface water, floodplains, wetlands, wildlife habitat, metallic and nonmetallic mineral resources, parks, open spaces, historical and cultural resources, community design, recreational resources and other natural resources.

AGRICULTURAL, NATURAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES POLICIES

The following are the agricultural, natural, and cultural resources policies for the Town of Ridgeway. (Parcel splits and minimum lot sizes are addressed in Section H, Land Use Element.)

- **Routinely remind residents of the importance of their agricultural, natural, and cultural resources and the need for continued protection of local open spaces to provide recreational opportunities.**

Tell residents about the agricultural, cultural, and natural resources in their Town and let them know ways they can support and protect them. Flyers included with a tax mailing, articles in the local newspaper, workshops, or other similar education efforts can help inform residents.

Work with the Village of Ridgeway, the Towns of Brigham, Waldwick, Arena, and Dodgeville and Iowa County to protect contiguous natural areas that give local residents space to pursue recreational opportunities.

- **Build partnerships with local clubs and organizations in order to protect important natural areas.**

Work with local chapters of groups like Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Trout Unlimited, and local sportsman's clubs that all have a common interest of protecting the environment. Cooperation can reduce duplication of effort and in turn cut costs.

- **Encourage and support prairie and savanna restoration.**

- **Enforce noxious weed control ordinances.**

At both the national and state level, concern is growing about non-native species that threaten the stability of native or more desirable plant communities. In order to protect the agricultural and natural resources of Iowa County from invasive, noxious weeds, local ordinances designed for the mutual benefit of citizens and the environment should emphasize education, prevention and cooperation between landowners and governmental agencies.

- **Support tree preservation and sustainable forestry practices.**

Trees are important components of a community's green infrastructure. A healthy population of trees offers substantial environmental benefits, including cleaner air and water, quieter streets, cheaper energy bills, cooler temperatures, and wildlife habitat. In addition, trees can provide numerous economic advantages, such as increased property values and lower air and water remediation costs.

- **Maintain proper separation distances between urban and rural land uses to avoid conflicts.**

It is important to maintain separation distances between urban and rural land uses, as issues often arise such as neighbors complaining about noises, smells, chemical sprays, and farm machinery on the roadways.

- **Identify recharge areas for local wells and inventory potential contaminant sources.**

Contamination of local drinking water resources can be devastating and very costly to reverse. Be aware of recharge area locations for wells and potential contamination sources. Again, education of residents on local water resource issues may be beneficial.

- **Restrict development from major drainage areas in order to aid in stormwater runoff and prevent flooding.**

Refrain from developing drainage ways and floodplains that serve as stormwater runoff systems. Drainage basins were established naturally for a reason and should be preserved.

- **Promote tourism opportunities and continue to pursue efforts to capitalize on local resources in conjunction with programs like walking tours, the Wisconsin Historical Markers Program, distributing ATV or bike trail maps, maintaining trails, and preserving the natural beauty of the area.**

Every jurisdiction is unique and can capitalize on its historic or cultural significance and natural beauty. For example, tours can be walking, driving, or biking with certain areas of cultural or environmental significance identified.

- **Utilize County, State, and Federal programs to conserve, maintain, and protect agricultural, natural, and cultural resources.**

Numerous state and federal programs aim specifically at protecting farmland, wetlands, forests, historic buildings, etc. There are agencies and contact information at the end of this section.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

Agriculture plays an important role in the past and future of southwestern Wisconsin. Even though this plan is being developed for the Town of Ridgeway, the importance of agricultural resources in the surrounding area should not be underestimated. Farming is important aesthetically, culturally, economically, and recreationally to the Town of Ridgeway.

FARMING CONFLICTS

The Plan Commission did not identify any conflicts between farm operations and non-farm neighbors.

FARM EXPANSION

As farming becomes more global, the forces driving agricultural change are reflected in the decline of traditional agricultural commodities. One strategy farmers have begun to follow is farm expansion and modernization. Expanding can help farmers maintain their net income and can sometimes also lead to efficiencies and lower production costs. Modernization strategies can also help improve farming operations. However, expansion and modernization bring with them possibilities of greater impacts to the local environment, as well as issues such as modernized farms needing fewer employees, resulting in local agricultural job losses. Larger operations may also require larger manure handling facilities, increasing the chances of more spills or odor complaints. The Town of Ridgeway believes that size limits should be placed on farms in the Town. In particular, the Plan Commission wants to limit factory type farms or large confinement operations that will contribute to air and/or water pollution.

YOUNG FARMERS

One challenge facing farming in southwest Wisconsin is the lack of young people to replace a generation of older farmers. While farmers are retiring at the same rate, fewer young people are getting into farming. Communities seeking to retain their local agricultural economy and way of life need to consider strategies that will bring new or young people into farming. The Plan Commission believes that better prices for farm products would bring young people back to production agriculture.

FARMING INFRASTRUCTURE

Farming infrastructure includes businesses and services such as a feed mill, equipment vendor, or veterinarian might supply. Farm supply businesses and food processing facilities represent important resources to area farmers as well as the broader local economy; the Town of Ridgeway does not have any farming infrastructure.

FARM TYPES

The Town of Ridgeway Plan Commission believes multi-enterprise (e.g. beef, dairy, and crops) should be encouraged, rather than single enterprise farms (e.g. only dairy, only soybeans). Specifically, the Plan Commission encourages the following types of farm operations:

- Dairy Operations
- Organic Farming
- Beef-Cow/Calf Operations
- Cash Crop Operations
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

The Plan Commission does not encourage hog, sheep, dairy, or beef-finishing farming operations of over 500 animal units within the Town of Ridgeway.

FARMER RETIREMENT

Land has inherent value but it is also valuable for what it produces and as it provides the farmer with a source of retirement funds. Trying to find a middle path of conserving farmland while enabling farmers to retire by profiting from their land is a statewide issue. The Town of Ridgeway Plan Commission suggested a transfer of development rights (TDR) program wherein development rights are sold from farms to areas unsuitable for agriculture. This permits density control and yet allows all farm owners to participate in increased land values.

FARMING AND COMMUNITY VISION

It is essential to the Town of Ridgeway’s community vision to maintain both current farm operations and agriculture in general.

FARMING DATA

As indicated by Figure E.1, between 1987 and 2002 there was an overall increase of 335 farms in the county. (The US Agricultural Census defines a farm as any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have produced and sold during the census year.)

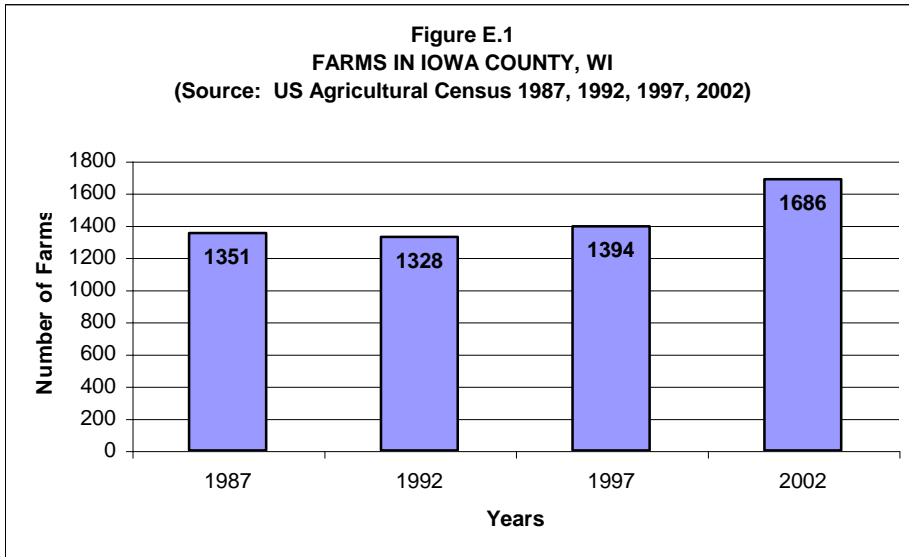


Figure E.2 relates to the number of farms in Iowa County, as it shows the total number of acres in farms. There has been an overall decline in the total number of acres farmed. A contributing factor is the amount of farmland being converted to residential, recreational, or conservation land.

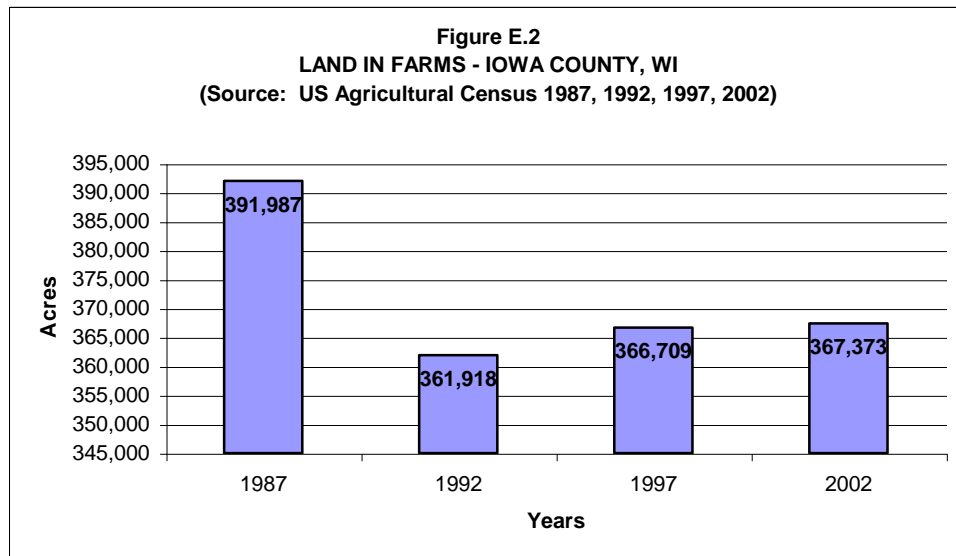


Figure E.3 shows the number of farmland sales and conversion in Iowa County. All towns show changes in sales and conversion but the Town of Eden is the lowest.

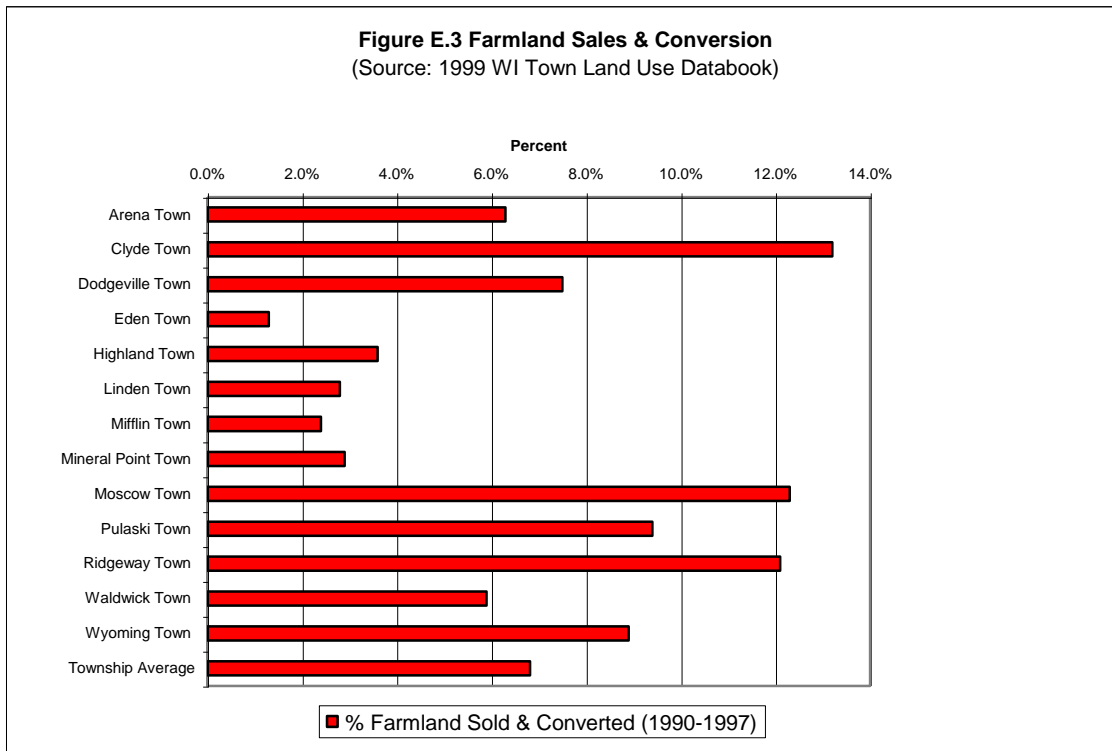


Figure E. 4 shows the average value of sale per acre of land. Most towns are roughly \$950 per acre with the Town of Wyoming an obvious exception.

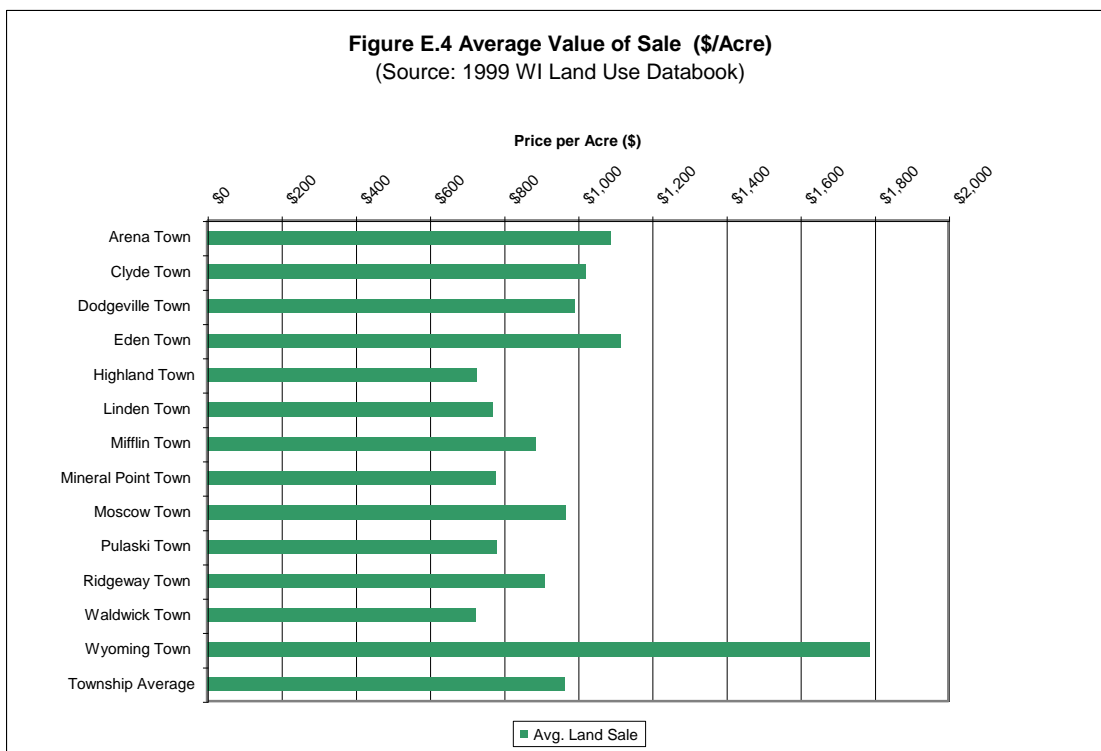
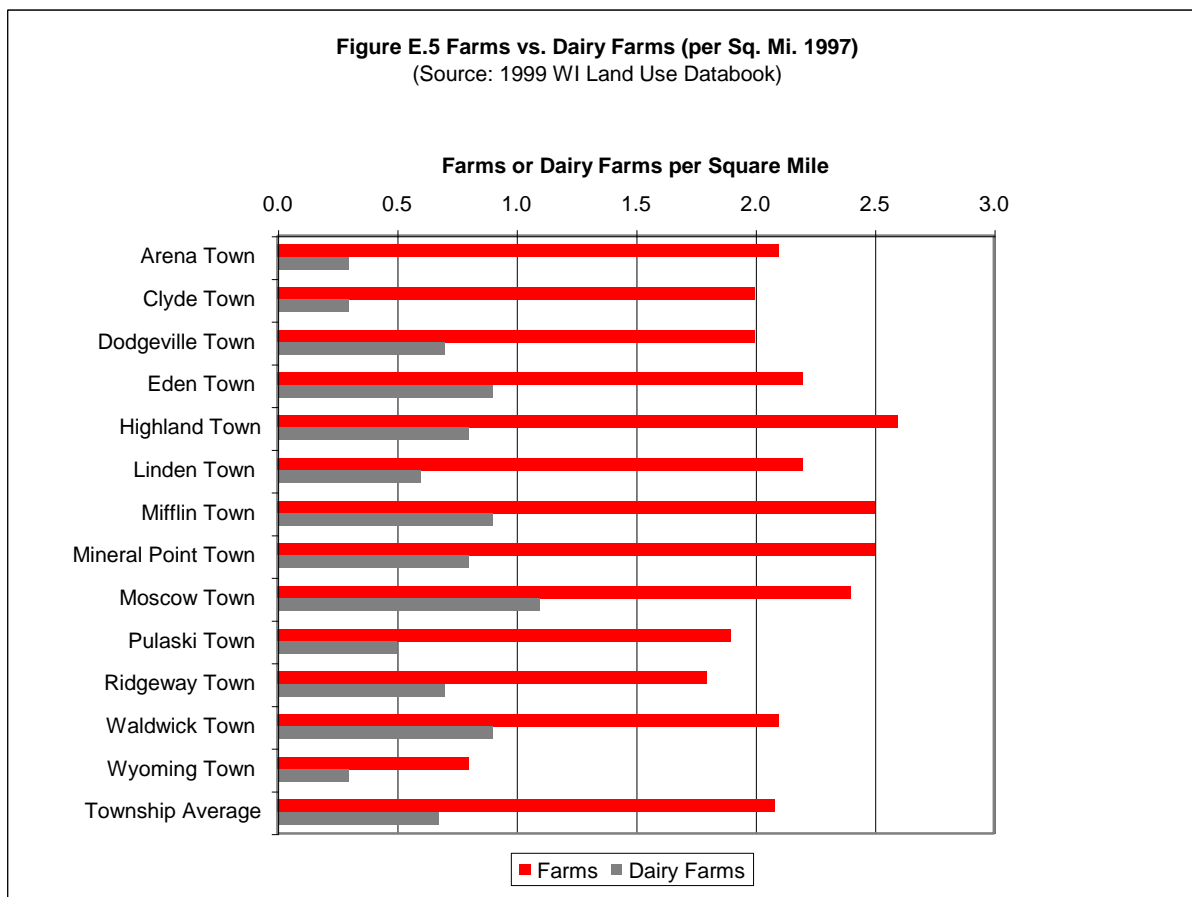


Figure E.5 shows a comparison of farms to dairy farms per square mile in 1997. Non-dairy farms were greater in number than dairy farms in all the towns of Iowa County.



FARMLAND POTENTIAL

In Iowa County, 72 percent of the soils are classified as prime, state, and local importance. Map E.1 is a Town level soil classification map. The classifications are

Prime Farmland - Most Capability Group I and II Soils
(25 percent of soils in Iowa County)

State Importance - Most Capability Group III Soils
(20 percent of soils in Iowa County)

Local Importance - Varies but in Southwestern Wisconsin some Capability Group IV, V, and VI Soils. In Iowa County these include land with better moisture holding capacity – valuable locally for pasture and hay production.
(27 percent of soils in Iowa County)

Other - Soil groups of importance (Capability Group VII, VIII) not noted in the categories above.

LAND COVER

Map E.2 shows the amount of agricultural resources in the Town of Ridgeway. It also shows the location of natural resources, including forested lands, open water, and wetlands.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural resources are the essence of the natural environment. Whether obvious or not, impacts to sensitive environmental communities and resources often have significant adverse impacts on the human community.

WATER RESOURCES

Water is one of the most commonly used natural resources, serving an intrinsic function in the community. People utilize groundwater for drinking water, industrial uses, recreational purposes, etc. on a daily basis. Plants and animals rely on water to survive. Water is also one of the most easily contaminated resources. Because of its mobile nature, contaminants can travel far from their source through the ever-moving water cycle. This type of pervasive pollution is commonly known as non-point source pollution (NPSP).

Non-point source pollution comes from many diffuse sources resulting from a wide variety of human activities. NPSP directly impacts water resources. The Town of Ridgeway actively protects its water resources by recommending catch basins, Ag contour strips, and the creation of small dams, with all construction done according to state regulations.

SURFACE WATER

Watercourses and water bodies provide various recreational opportunities, including fishing, swimming, boating, and passive recreational opportunities such as bird watching. Streams provide habitat for aquatic species and other wildlife. The Wisconsin and Pecatonica Rivers and nearby lakes and streams serve recreational needs of area residents. See Map E.3 for surface water resources in the Town of Ridgeway and Map E.4 for Town watersheds. Ridgeway is in two watersheds, the Mill and Blue Mounds Creeks and the Upper East Branch of the Pecatonica River watersheds.

FLOODPLAINS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has designated flood hazard areas along many surface water resources. The importance of respecting floodways and floodplains is critical in terms of planning and development. Ignoring these constraints can cause serious problems relating to property damage and the overall safety of residents. Due to Iowa County being entirely within the Driftless Area, the flood plains are largely the result of a well-developed dendritic (tree branch-like) drainage pattern draining the fairly rugged topography. This, together with low infiltration rates for most of its soils, combines to make overall flood risk in Iowa County quite high, as is true in the Town of Ridgeway. In order to lower flood risk, the Town does not allow building in floodplains, roadway ditches are maintained and culverts are used when necessary. See Map E.5 for the FEMA map.

WETLANDS

Wetlands serve a variety of functions, including playing an important role in stormwater management and flood control, filtering pollutants, recharging groundwater, providing a habitat for many wildlife species and plants, and offering open space and passive recreational opportunities. Iowa County wetlands include all marshes and swamps and those areas excluded from cultivation or other use because they are intermittently wet. The steep topography of southwest Wisconsin results in most natural wetlands being closely linked to the region's rivers and streams.

The Wisconsin Wetland Inventory (WWI) was completed for the state in 1985. Pre-European settlement wetland figures estimate the state had about 10 million acres of wetlands. Based on aerial photography from 1978-79, the WWI shows approximately 5.3 million acres of wetlands remaining in the state representing a loss of about 47% of original wetland acreage. This figure does not include wetlands less than 2 or 5 acres in size (minimum mapping unit varies by county). Because the original WWI utilized aerial photographs taken in the summer some wetlands were missed, especially in the northern counties since interpretation was difficult due to leaf cover. Also, wetlands that were farmed as of the date of photography used and then later abandoned due to wet conditions were not captured as part of the WWI. Most wetland losses in Iowa County have likely been due to draining for farming.

The Legislature authorized the DNR to update the WWI on a 10-year cycle. Budget constraints and lack of staff have slowed this process to a 24-year cycle at best. Digitizing wetland maps to obtain accurate wetland acreage information is on a rotation almost twice that long. As a result there is no reliable qualitative and quantitative data about current rates of wetland loss. As a result there is no reliable qualitative and quantitative data about current rates of wetland loss. For more information, go to <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/wetlands/facts.shtml>.)

Ridgeway protects wetland resources by regulating all new driveways to maintain a maximum grade of 10 percent. Road right-of-ways are ditched and controlled for runoff with culverts and vegetated buffers.

GROUNDWATER

Groundwater is a critical resource, not only because it is used on a daily basis, but also because rivers, streams, and other surface water depends on groundwater for recharge. Groundwater, whether from municipal or private well, supplies all Iowa County residents with drinking water. See Map E.6 for depth to groundwater levels for Ridgeway.

Groundwater can easily become contaminated through non-point source pollution. The Driftless Area is characterized by thin soils over fractured limestone, sandstone, or shale bedrock and it is in this type underlying geology where the potential for groundwater contamination is greatest. The Town only has individual wells and the Plan Commission does not wish to create wellhead protection plans for private wells. The jurisdiction as a whole actively protects its drinking water through policies restricting large feedlots.

Water supply is impacted as communities grow, bringing increased demand to supply groundwater to new homes, businesses, and industries. Increased well pumping can reduce the amount of recharge to surface waters, causing streamflow reduction, loss of springs, and changes in wetland vegetative communities. However, the establishment of a high capacity well in the Town might impact water supply. The Groundwater Bill (2003 Act 310) addresses groundwater quantity issues, requiring approval for siting, fees, and an environmental review. While this legislation is currently more relevant in areas of the state experiencing severe water quantity issues (e.g. the Central Sands region), the principle of controlling groundwater withdrawal in all parts of the state is quite important. By 2006, a groundwater advisory committee will be put together to address groundwater management in

“...Other areas of the state in which the withdrawal of groundwater over the long term adversely affects the availability of water for use or adversely affects water quality due to the effects of drawdown of the groundwater and in which there is a need for a coordinated response among the state, local government units, regional planning commissions, and public and private users of groundwater to address the effects on groundwater availability or quality.” (2003 Wisconsin Act 310, published May 6, 2004).”

Currently, increasing water supply demand is not an issue in the Town of Ridgeway.

It is important to keep the groundwater resource in mind for many areas of comprehensive planning. Ultimately, what takes place above ground directly impacts this resource below the surface. There are a number of activities that directly impact the quality of water resources.

Potential pollution sources that can affect the groundwater supply include but are not limited to:

- On-site septic systems
- Sewage Treatment Plants
- Surface Waste Water Discharge
- Sanitary Landfills
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Feedlots
- Junkyards
- Abandoned Quarries
- Abandoned Wells
- Pesticide and Fertilizer Applications
- Road Salt
- Household Cleaners & Detergents
- Unsewered Subdivisions
- Gas Stations
- Chemical Spills
- Leaking Sewer Lines
- Old Mine Openings or Shafts

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES

Wildlife enriches our lives by providing opportunities for observing or photographing animals in their native habitat. Wildlife serves as an educational stimulus by provoking human curiosity about the natural world.

Habitat is the combination of food, water, shelter, and space necessary to meet the needs of wildlife.

Humans have an environmental responsibility to protect wildlife and the habitat it needs to survive. Since wildlife can cause problems by destroying property, carrying disease, producing unsanitary waste, and conflicting with human activities, it is important to provide natural habitat at a distance from human activities where animals will not be in contact with humans and can live and breed without interference.

Savannas, grasslands with a partial canopy of open grown trees, and ridge tops are home to a wide array of wildlife, particularly birds. Savanna, grassy ridge tops, and forest historically covered the hills of southwest Wisconsin. Today, savannas and grassy ridge tops are rare. Descriptions of natural communities in Iowa County are listed in Appendix E-1. Ridgeway is within two ecological landscapes, Southwest Savanna and Western Coulee and Ridge.

To protect its natural areas, the Town of Ridgeway utilizes its Land Use Plan that states that all plans for development in or adjacent to important natural features must be carefully reviewed by the Land Use Commission and Town Board to ensure that existing natural features are preserved whenever possible. The Land Use Plan and the Land Use Commission were created for the purpose of both actively supporting agriculture and preserving wildlife habitat. See Section H, Land Use Element Policies for more information.

The Town does not give financial support to wildlife protection and conservation, but the preservation and maintenance of areas needed to support wildlife shall be encouraged. The Plan Commission has also expressed an interest in learning more about supporting prairie and savanna restoration efforts and groups.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 was enacted to conserve threatened and endangered species of wildlife and plants. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has used the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) to develop maps for all counties in the state providing generalized information about rare, threatened and endangered species. Threatened and Endangered plant species are vulnerable to a variety of exotic, invasive plants, such as Bull Thistle and Wild Parsnip. Ridgeway enforces its public nuisance ordinance that specifically addresses noxious weeds, noxious odors, stagnant water areas, and well pollution areas. DNR-NHI maps (Map E.7a and E.7b) have been included at the end of this section for a reference. Also, refer to Appendix E-2 for a list of the Threatened and Endangered plant, animal, and natural communities of the Town of Ridgeway.

FOREST RESOURCES

Forests provide raw materials for the forest products industry and a venue for hunting, hiking, and fishing. They help sustain water resources and provide habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals, including threatened and endangered species. They also help balance global warming effects through oxygen production and carbon sequestration. Over half the forested lands in Wisconsin (57%) are privately owned. See Map E.2 for forested lands in Ridgeway.

RURAL FORESTS

Forty-six percent of Wisconsin is forested (16 million acres). Forests therefore represent one of Wisconsin's most important land uses and are often times a defining feature of communities or whole regions. Other benefits of forests include:

- Recreational opportunities such as hunting, fish, and hiking
- Groundwater protection
- Home for wide variety of plants and animals, including Threatened and Endangered species
- Cleans air by producing oxygen and storing carbon
- Part of Wisconsin's culture

With a stated objective to protect woodlands, the Town of Ridgeway has 3,290 acres in the Forest Crop Managed Forest Law program. The Plan Commission expressed interested in learning more about other sustainable forestry practices as well.

There are no municipal tree-planting programs in place in the Town of Ridgeway, nor is the Plan Commission interested in such programs. However, the Plan Commission does encourage tree planting north of Highway 18/151 within the Town of Ridgeway.

URBAN FORESTS

One natural resource often forgotten is the urban forest. The urban forest does not necessarily only relate to trees, but also includes shrubs, flowers, vines, ground cover, grass, and other plants within an urban area.

The Town does not have any Urban Forest.

ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

Environmental corridors refer to areas that contain groupings of natural resource features. Areas of concentrated natural resource activity (“rooms”), such as wetlands, woodlands, prairies, lakes, and other features, become even more functional when linked by environmental corridors (“hallways”). If corridor resource features are placed on a map, they can show a linear space.

Fish and wildlife populations, native plant distribution, and even clean water all depend on movement through environmental corridors. For example, wildlife populations isolated in one wooded location can overpopulate, die out, or cause problems for neighbors if there are not adequate corridors to allow the population to move about freely. Over 70 percent of all terrestrial wildlife species use riparian corridors, according to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Environmental Corridor Benefits:

- Reduced Flooding
- Reduced Soil Erosion
- Improved Water Quality
- Improved Water Quantity
- Groundwater Recharge
- Bank Stabilization
- Improved Air Quality
- Improved Wildlife Habitat

Social Benefits:

- Walking and Hiking
- Cross Country Skiing
- Horseback Riding
- Photography
- Wildlife Viewing

Map E.8 shows several natural resource features in Ridgeway, which can act as environmental corridors. Preserving environmental corridors can be a highly effective way to protect natural and cultural resources in an area.

AIR AND LIGHT

The Plan Commission did not identify air or light pollution as issues at this time.

GEOLOGIC AND SOIL RESOURCES

Soils and geology are also important planning considerations, particularly when thinking about new development. Today, technological advances can overcome many development challenges relating to soil and geology; however, it is important that these resources are not abused, overused, or contaminated. Particular attention must be paid to soils when development is occurring on steeper slopes and for septic systems. Drain-fields must be located to allow adequate infiltration and the sewage treatment provided by soils. A series of maps including slope limitations (Map E.9), septic limitations (Map E.10), and depth to bedrock (Map E.11) have been included.

Southwest Wisconsin is part of the unglaciated region known as the Driftless Area. Most of the bedrock in this region is sedimentary rock, consisting of sandstone and shale or limestone, containing mineral resources. Mineral resources are divided into two categories, metallic and non-metallic. Metallic resources in the region include lead and zinc. Non-metallic resources include sand, gravel, and limestone, with limestone as one of the most significant geologic resources in the area, used frequently for road building. Refer to Map E-12 for a map showing mines and quarries in Iowa County.

Restricting access to abandoned mines or quarries helps protect these areas from becoming source points for groundwater contamination.

There is an active quarry in Ridgeway that is fenced and gated, restricting access. There are no mine pits or diggings in the jurisdiction.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Open space serves many important functions. It protects ecologically sensitive areas including wetlands and water resources, important wildlife habitat, and sensitive soils. Open space plays an important role in shaping the character of the community, as nothing can replace the visual impact of vast open space, whether it is agricultural land or woodlands. Preserving open spaces not only directly protects resources, but the space becomes a vital buffer zone. Open space can take the form of parks, cropland and pastures, greenbelts, wetlands or floodplains. Open space can also serve many functions for a community other than recreation, such as the following:

- Flood management
- Preserving prime agricultural land
- Limiting development that may occur
- Buffering incompatible land uses
- Structuring the community environment

LOCAL PARK AND RECREATION RESOURCES

Parks can serve a limited neighborhood area, a portion of the community, or the entire community or region and provide area and facilities for outdoor recreation for residents and visitors.

The Town of Ridgeway offers a variety of recreational amenities to recreational users and visitors including:

- Snowmobile trails
- Bike trails
- Campgrounds
- Hyde Mill and Dam that attracts many tourists
- DNR land that is open to hunters and bird watchers
- Many fishing streams
- Folklore Village that attracts thousands of tourists and classes

Ridgeway is also near Blue Mounds and Governor Dodge State Parks. Refer to Map E.13 for Iowa County parks.

The Town does not actively promote its natural resources to recreational visitors. Nor does the Plan Commission see a need for additional parks, trails, or other outdoor recreation spaces in the Town.

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

Many communities often ignore cultural and historic resources in order to deal with “real” issues facing their community. However, the proper appreciation of these assets is vital to the long-term success of a community. Respecting and utilizing these available resources increases the overall quality of life and provides opportunities for tourism.

Determining what are cultural and historic resources has been left open to some interpretation. For the purpose of this report, historic resources include historic buildings and sites (as identified by the national register of historic places), museums, churches, cemeteries, old country schools, and other buildings deemed appropriate by the community. The information presented here is to serve as a guide to cultural and historic resources but is not inclusive.

HISTORIC PLACES

Ridgeway has two sites listed on the State and/or National Register of Historic Places. Refer to Map E.14 for historic places in the Town of Ridgeway.

Table E.1- National Register of Historic Places

Name and Type of Place	Location	Date Added to State Register	Date Added to National Register
Plum Grove Primitive Methodist Church	County Road BB	1/20/95	4/27/95
Hyde Chapel	County Hwy T	1/1/89	10/13/88

CHURCHES

Churches have had a significant impact on the culture of the Town of Ridgeway area. Refer to Map E.15 for churches in Ridgeway.

Places of worship in the Town include:

- Hyde Chapel – Nondenominational Association
- Plum Grove Primitive Methodist Church (moved to Folklore; may not be active church/no services)

CEMETERIES

Also identified as a prominent historic and cultural resource are the area cemeteries. Cemeteries can provide an historic perspective of the area, giving names and ethnicities of previous residents. Refer to Map E.15 for cemeteries in the Town of Ridgeway.

The following cemeteries serve the Town of Ridgeway:

- Hyde
- Ebenezer – Eastside
- Ruggles
- Hickox – Ridgeway Village
- St. Bridget's

RURAL SCHOOLS

The old time, one room schoolhouse once dotted the landscape, providing public education for mainly rural communities. Over time, these buildings were utilized less and less, as larger, more centrally located schools were built and students were bused in from the country. Nevertheless, the one room schoolhouse remains an icon of American rural culture, representing the opportunity for all children to learn “the three R’s”: reading, ‘riting, and ‘rithmetic. Refer to Map E.14 for rural school buildings in the Town of Ridgeway.

The following rural school buildings (some of which have been converted to other uses) are in the Town of Ridgeway:

- Wakefield
- Ruggles
- Pikes Peak
- Blue Grass Valley
- Yagers Corner
- Weier

OTHER HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND SITES IN THE TOWN OF RIDGEWAY

The Plan Commission identified three other historic sites in the Town. Refer to Map E.14 for other historic buildings and sites in Ridgeway.

- Folklore Village (County B) – Folk Art Center
- Hyde Blacksmith Shop (County H) – Being reconstructed
- Ruggles Farm (County H) – Old stagecoach stop

CULTURAL RESOURCE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The Town of Ridgeway supports the Hyde Blacksmith shop restoration, the Ridgeway Pines Area, and the Folklore Village Folk Art Festival.

Ridgeway’s most important cultural resources and the threats to them are listed on Table E.2.

Table E.2 - Cultural Resources Most Important To Your Community

Cultural Resource	Threats
Hyde Mill	Neglect

RESPONSE TO THREATS TO CULTURAL RESOURCES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The Town of Ridgeway established the Hyde Historical Preservation Committee to address the preservation of Hyde Mill.

ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

About 10,000 years ago, **Paleo-Indians** entered Wisconsin as they hunted woolly mammoth, mastodon, and bison. These large mammals lived on the abundant vegetation beginning to grow as the glaciers retreated northward.

Around 8,000 years ago, during the **Archaic Period**, the climate became warmer and dryer. Animals found in the state today replaced the large Ice Age mammals. People lived in smaller family groups in caves, rockshelters, along rivers, and around lakes and wetlands. They harvested wild plants, nuts, and acorns. They hunted animals such as deer and elk.

About 3,000 years ago, during the **Woodland Period**, people lived in large villages and began to use bows and arrows to hunt. It was during this period that many mounds, including effigies or mounds built in the shape of turtles, birds, bears and other animals, were built throughout Wisconsin. These people were Wisconsin’s first potters and gardeners.

The **Mississippian Period** began about 1,000 years ago. In Wisconsin these people are called **Oneota**. They lived in villages and planted gardens to grow crops such as corn, beans, and squash. They had a complex trade network that extended to both the Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

Jean Nicolet, a French explorer, arrived in Wisconsin in 1634. At that time, the Indian tribes present in the state included the Ho Chunk (Winnebago), Potawatomi, Menominee, and Ojibwa (Chippewa) Indians. This marked the beginning of the **Historic Period**.

The table below gives archeological sites documented in your community. This is not a complete list because some sites disappear due to development or agriculture and some may not yet been reported to the State Historical Society.

Table E.3 - Archeological Sites In Your Community*

Site/Code Name	Site Type	Cultural Significance
Ley Creek	Campsite/village	Unknown Prehistoric
Ted Sawle	Workshop site, Campsite/village	Late Archaic, Late Woodland
Butteris #1	Cave/rockshelter	Unknown Prehistoric
Walnut Orchard Site	Campsite/village	Late Archaic
Hyde Campsite	Campsite/village	Late Woodland
McCutchen	Campsite/village	Middle Woodland
Parks Rockshelter	Cave/rockshelter	Late Woodland
Hyde-aka Mill Creek Church Cem.	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
St. Bridget's Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Eastside Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Unnamed Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Ruggles Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Paull Rockshelter	Campsite/village, Cave rockshelter	Woodland
Last Chance Rockshelter	Cave/rockshelter	Late Woodland
Jawbone Rockshelter	Cave/rockshelter	Unknown Prehistoric
Outlook Rockshelter	Cave/rockshelter	Woodland
Brown Rockshelter	Cave/rockshelter	Woodland
Double Chamber Rockshelter	Cave/rockshelter	Unknown Prehistoric
Biface Rockshelter	Cave/rockshelter	L.Arch., L. Wldd., Mid. Wldd.
Unnamed Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	
Owl Rockshelter	Rock art	Unknown Prehistoric
Fern Rockshelter	Rock art	Unknown Prehistoric
Ridge Pitts	Quarry/mine	Historic Euro/American
BB Lead Pits	Quarry/mine	Historic Euro/American
Folklore Diggings	Quarry/mine	Historic Euro/American

*Due to the delicate nature of archeological sites, the Wisconsin State Historical Society does not release specific locations.

The Plan Commission identified local cultural resource contacts on Table E.4.

Table E.4 - Cultural Resource Contacts In The Town Of Ridgeway

Name	Program/Affiliation	Area of Historical Expertise
Volunteer community groups to support preservation		

HISTORIC ORDINANCE

Ridgeway does not have an historic preservation ordinance and does not wish to create one at this time.

AGRICULTURAL, NATURAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCE AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS

There are a number of available state and federal programs to assist with agricultural, natural, and cultural resource planning and protection. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs. Contact information has been provided for each agency. To find out more specific information or which program best fits your needs contact them directly.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WI-DNR)

The Department of Natural Resources is dedicated to the preservation, protection, effective management, and maintenance of Wisconsin's natural resources. It is responsible for implementing the laws of the state and, where applicable, the laws of the federal government that protect and enhance the natural resources of our state. It is the one agency charged with full responsibility for coordinating the many disciplines and programs necessary to provide a clean environment and a full range of outdoor recreational opportunities for Wisconsin citizens and visitors. The Wisconsin DNR has a number of programs available ranging from threatened and endangered species to water quality to parks and open space to wetlands.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WI-DNR)

101 S Webster St
Madison WI 53703

Phone: 608-266-2621
Fax: 608-261-4380

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us>

The Bureau of Community Financial Assistance (CFA) administers grant and loan programs, under the WI-DNR. Financial program staff works closely with local governments and interested groups to develop and support projects that protect public health and the environment, and provide recreational opportunities.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (DATCP)

The Wisconsin Department of Trade and Consumer Protection inspects and licenses more than 100,000 businesses and individuals, analyzes millions of laboratory samples, conducts hundreds of hearings and investigations, educates businesses and consumers about best practices, adopts rules that have the force of law, and promotes Wisconsin agriculture at home and abroad.

Specifically DATCP has two divisions that relate directly to the agriculture and natural resource section of the comprehensive plan. The Environmental Division focuses on insects, land and water, as well as plants and animals. The Agricultural Division focuses on animals, crops, agricultural resources, and land and water resources.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (DATCP)

2811 Agriculture Drive
PO Box 8911
Madison WI 53708

Phone: 608-224-4960

<http://www.datcp.state.wi.us>

WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

The Natural Resources Conservation Service is the federal agency that works with landowners on private lands to conserve natural resources. NRCS is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and was formerly called the Soil Conservation Service (SCS).

Nearly three-fourths of the technical assistance provided by the agency goes to helping farmers and ranchers develop conservation systems uniquely suited to their land and individual ways of doing business. The agency also provides assistance to other private landowners and rural and urban communities to reduce erosion, conserve and protect water, and solve other resource problems.

WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

6515 Watts Road,
Suite 200
Madison, WI 53719

Phone (608) 276-USDA

<http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov>

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society serves as the archives of the State of Wisconsin. It collects books, periodicals, maps, manuscripts, relics, newspapers, and audio and graphic materials as they relate to North America. It maintains a museum, library, and research facility in Madison, as well as a statewide system of historic sites, school services, area research centers, administering a broad program of historic preservation and publishing a wide variety of historical materials, both scholarly and popular. The historical society can also provide assistance for various state and federal programs.

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Office of Preservation Planning
Division of Historic Preservation**

**Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706**

Phone: 608-264-6500

<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this section is to analyze business, industry, and employment trends and characteristics in Iowa County. Selected information is presented at the minor civil division level, a Census Bureau term for cities, villages, and towns. Specifically, this section provides an overview of the economy, sets policy direction for economic growth, and identifies strategies, programs, and projects to improve the economy. Specific information in this section includes employment status of the population, labor force participation rates, work status and income levels, employment industries and occupations, along with other relevant information.

Information in this element of the comprehensive plan comes from visioning sessions conducted at the end of 2002, the countywide public opinion surveys also conducted toward the beginning of the planning process, the economic development questionnaire presented to the cluster groups, and a nominal countywide meeting, held in November 2003 where cluster groups answered several questions about their views of economic development and future economic development needs in their area.



Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(f)

(f) *Economic Development*

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to promote the stabilization, retention or expansion, of the economic base and quality employment opportunities in the local governmental unit, including an analysis of the labor force and economic base of the local governmental unit. The element shall assess categories or particular types of new businesses and industries that are desired by the local governmental unit. The element shall assess the local governmental unit's strengths and weaknesses with respect to attracting and retaining businesses and industries, and shall designate an adequate number of sites for such businesses and industries. The element shall also evaluate and promote the use of environmentally contaminated sites for commercial or industrial uses. The element shall also identify county, regional and state economic development programs that apply to the local governmental unit.

INTRODUCTION

The economic development strategy for a community is a compilation of the objectives, policies, or goals, along with requisite maps, and the identification of programs and projects that promote the stabilization, retention, or expansion of the economic base and quality employment opportunities in the local governmental unit. It normally incorporates an analysis of the labor force and the economic base of the community. It tries to assess the categories or types of new businesses and industries that are desired by the local governmental unit, and identifies the jurisdiction's strengths and weaknesses for attracting or retaining these businesses and industries.

The requisite number of industrial or business sites needed to accommodate the community's stated goals and objectives, includes the evaluation of any known environmentally contaminated sites that could be used for commercial or industrial purposes. The strategy also identifies any applicable county, regional, state, or national economic development programs that may apply to the economic development goals of the community.

High profile projects for Iowa County communities include the need to fulfill tax increment financing district plans and the attraction of new business investments to the county. The county now has an enhanced opportunity to attract and grow additional businesses as a result of the major highway improvements to the US Highway 151 corridor. Opportunities also exist to facilitate new investments within downtown areas, and to enhance and promote tourism. The Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) law (SB 305/306, adopted February 29, 2004) makes it easier for cities and villages to add residential development where there is a desire for it. The Tourism, Agriculture, Forestry (TAF) law (AB 347, adopted April 13, 2004) helps towns pursue tourism, agricultural, or forestry based developments. There appears to be a strong commitment to rural issues throughout the county, and by working together as a county, many problems may be able to be addressed.

First and foremost is a strong recommendation that the county and its communities consider the formation of a countywide economic development organization, and specific recommendations, including a possible model to follow, is provided in the policy statements below. The reasons for doing such a thing are numerous and compelling. Among them:

- (1) The county has several industrial and business parks that have had, or are proposed for, considerable public investment, and these should be marketed by the communities;
- (2) Iowa County as a whole, along with several of its communities, has a strong economic development tool in a relatively large revolving loan fund that can be more effectively utilized if full time professional staff were available to work with prospective borrowers;
- (3) From a regional economic development perspective, Iowa County is the "hole in the donut" being surrounded on all sides by counties that have formed countywide economic development corporations (Grant, Lafayette, Green, Richland and Sauk) or have other significant economic development capacity (Dane). There are many regional initiatives, such as the Agricultural Development Zone tax credit program, and the Southwest Wisconsin Regional Economic Development Coalition (<http://swwrpc.org/redc>) that could benefit from greater Iowa County participation if additional staff capacity were available.
- (4) Approximately three-quarters of all counties in the state, including many rural counties, have found the need to form countywide economic development organizations. It is one of the most effective models for promoting the local area and working on a myriad of issues of interest to its members. It is also not too large and not too small to be effective, and the members have a considerable number of things in common;
- (5) Economic development is more than just enhancing business development or creating and saving jobs. It is complex, with many areas of concern, including preservation or modernization of farms, protecting the environment, promoting new housing, and many more. In order to achieve community goals, it may be necessary to increase the institutional capacity to deal with them. Such an organization, with its economy of scale, can be very affordable to its members.

The Wisconsin Economic Development Association (WEDA) provides more information below.

What is Economic Development or Why The Buck (\$) Starts Here!

Economic development (ED) is a term commonly heard these days but it is an important concept that is often misunderstood.

What is Economic Development?

Economic development is the process by which a community organizes and then applies its energies to the tasks of improving the economic well-being and quality of life for the community. Economic development is an investment in the community.

Why Should You Be Concerned About Economic Development?

The reasons are quite basic. Economic development helps pay the bills. Economic development is about working together to maintain a strong economy by creating and retaining desirable jobs, which provide a good standard of living for individuals, thereby increasing the tax base, so a community, county or state can provide the level of services residents expect.

Does Economic Development Really Matter?

A community needs ED in order to help pay for growing citizen wants, to retain and grow existing businesses, to attract new business and investment, to nurture local entrepreneurs (start-ups) and to replenish income lost by dollar "leakage" out of the community through the purchase of goods made elsewhere. Job growth and maintenance in local basic industries (which produce goods and services sold outside the area) brings new dollars into the community. New dollars invested or spent in a community generate more economic activity, creating a "multiplier" effect. The higher the multiplier, the greater is the effect on the local economy. The same applies for new jobs in the community. Multiplier total impacts commonly fall in the range between 1.5 and 2. Subsequently, the total community impact of new dollars or jobs can be up to double the amount of the original amount.

Similarly, new capital investment in real property generates a continuous revenue stream through property taxes. At the average rate for Wisconsin cities, one million dollars in new business property produces annual revenue of \$25,000. Vacant and underutilized property can generate the opposite result. Due to these dynamic circumstances, if there is no mechanism to foster growth and positive change, the alternative is community economic stagnation and decay.

Why Economic Development Now?

Economic development has increasingly become an integral part of public policy decision-making. Simultaneously, until recently, ED success has been continual, to the point where it was assumed and taken for granted. For example, during the economic boom of the 1990's, Wisconsin dramatically outperformed the nation in job creation for its citizens. Labor shortages became the major concern.

Now, the problem is how can scarce (limited) resources be utilized in the most efficient manner to satisfy limitless wants, both individual and collective?

Major changes in world and national economies are now taking place. In response to globalization, some companies are merging, moving, shrinking, or closing. Community economic success is no longer a "given" and cannot be taken for granted. What then?

It all depends upon how a community reacts to economic change; what it knows about itself, its economy and the wants and needs of all its citizens; and, how it is positioned to satisfying these wants and needs in the future.

The significance of ED programs and professions is never greater than in "challenging" times, such as we currently have. The last place to look for cuts and cost savings is the one place – ED – that can best return our communities and state to the level of growth and prosperity we so recently enjoyed. This is an important and continual job, requiring cooperation, analysis, expertise, and action.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Below are the policies that will help Iowa County and its jurisdictions achieve a self-sustaining economic development initiative in both the short- and long-term.

- **The various interested communities, county representatives, and other parties including businesses and business organizations, should meet to discuss the creation of a countywide economic development corporation.**

Such a corporation should be formed under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes, avoiding the creation of a county economic development corporation under Chapter 66 of the Statutes. Virtually all of the more than fifty such corporations in the state are formed under Chapter 181, and also organized under Section 501(c)4 or 501(c)6 of the Internal Revenue Code. A potential model for such a corporation is that of the Fond du Lac County Economic Development Corporation (<http://www.fcedc.com/>). This organization is somewhat different from the typical economic development corporation in the sense that it has a large number of business and industry memberships, in addition to the more usual municipal and county partnerships. The principal purpose of that corporation is to promote business and economic development within the county, including business retention, entrepreneurship and community development.

- **All incorporated jurisdictions, as well as the county, should provide for annual funding of economic development needs, including, but not limited to membership dues in organizations that promote economic development beneficial to the county.**

Cities and villages should have an annual appropriation for economic development activities to include, but not be limited to, dues or contributions to local, county or other economic development organizations that the community or county feels is highly beneficial in terms of cost/benefit. An economic development budget, even a modest one, may also assist to address any pressing issues that are identified at times other than when the budget is prepared.

- **Each community should create a community fund through the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, especially if there is not an alternative vehicle for encouraging local charitable contributions that go toward overall community betterment.**

A Community Fund is a charitable component of the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, Inc. It allows individuals and groups to contribute time and money toward the betterment of a specific community. Each has a volunteer board comprised of community members that encourage the growth of the fund and oversees distributions in the form of grants based on community projects, programs and other changing needs.

- **Utilize the availability of training programs to enhance local capacity building for purposes of community and economic development.**

Establish an organized and trained business recruitment and retention team within a community development organization by seeking assistance from existing resources that are available (i.e., UW Extension, Alliant Energy, SWWRPC, etc.). Also participate in the Community Leadership Alliance that offers training for existing and potential community leaders. Contact the County University Extension office to inquire about this program.

- **Develop necessary information to market the community and the available business sites and available buildings within the community on the Internet.**

Develop a "community profile" with applicable information of value to potential new businesses and residents to help them make a location decision and to give them local contacts for additional information. Ensure that printed or electronic profiles are updated annually. It is important that this information be posted to a web site where information on industrial and commercial sites in the county can be easily found. Site selection locators most often find information about sites and buildings on web sites, such as that of Forward Wisconsin, Inc. (<http://www.siteswi.com>).

➤ **Work on tourism potential as tourism is one of the fundamental assets of Iowa County.**

The county and its communities should partner with the Point of Beginnings Heritage Area, Inc. (POB) to have a countywide presence (a display) and a community presence (pamphlets and other printed material) in the new Belmont Area Visitor's Center now constructed at Belmont. The POB opened the facility to the public on May 1, 2004. A plan to partner with a countywide tourism organization, such as a county tourism committee, has been developed for the purposes of ensuring active participation between Point of Beginnings organization and each of the three counties it serves.

➤ **Make historic preservation and tourism a fundamental economic development strategy of community and county efforts.**

Iowa County communities have some of the earliest histories in the state, which have played a pivotal role in the development of the state. Historic preservation and heritage tourism is undoubtedly among the greatest assets that the area has. Tourists, and many people in general, are very interested in history, and the area should preserve and promote its history as a major economic development strategy. This means providing support to active groups who work diligently on either protecting the history of the area, or in promoting it. There are many organizations, from genealogical groups to historical societies, to tourism committees and non-profit organizations. Communities should strive to work closely with these groups to help them achieve their goals.

➤ **Conduct a housing needs assessment in all areas interested in housing development, and make housing development a fundamental economic development strategy in areas where this is desired, but evaluate proposals by doing a feasibility analysis.**

Housing has been identified as a key need in many communities. Private consultants are available to assist communities in determining what types of housing is needed, but more importantly, what types of housing can be supported by the community. Investment in new housing is not inexpensive for communities or developers, and any assistance that can be provided in establishing need and feasibility may encourage the development of the right kind of new housing for the community.

➤ **Become familiar with new Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and the Tourism, Agriculture, Forestry (TAF) laws. This is pertinent for any jurisdiction, even towns, as there may be considerable opportunities for economic development.**

Significant changes in Wisconsin's tax increment financing law represents the largest overhaul of this law in many years. The changes are substantial and will make it easier for a community to create one, and will provide for more advantageous time lines for making investments and paying off the associated debt. The TIF law is one of the most powerful economic development tools in existence. The new TAF law can assist towns getting help with projects whose goals are to foster or augment tourism, agriculture, or forestry development.

ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES

During the community visioning work completed in December 2002, the term "job" or "jobs" was very rarely used in answering the questions posed at the session. (These questions are listed below.) Terms such as preserve, conservation, history, farms and agriculture, and services were commonly used. This discussion was centered on the participant's feelings about quality of life in general. Jobs, of course, are important as they provide a livelihood and a good job, with benefits, and provide a better standard of living.

- What do you like about living in this area of Iowa County?
- What are some of the community values?
- What are some of the challenges or concerns facing your community?
- What are some opportunities for your communities in the future?
- What type of development or redevelopment should occur in this area?
- What words do you want your grandchildren to use to describe your community?
- What do you want to preserve?
- What do you want your community to look like in 2022?

In preparation of this plan, the Issues and Opportunities Element identified the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and issues of each cluster group. The following is a listing of the top significant **countywide** strengths, opportunities, issues, and weaknesses as identified by the local planning commissions. The number in parentheses after each item is the number of jurisdictions that indicated the particular statement. Although these issues may differ from area to area within the county, these are considered to be the most important on a countywide basis. The following were determined to be the most significant based on the number of jurisdictions listing the items. All items receiving relatively few mentions are ignored for purposes of this discussion.

Significant Countywide Strengths

- Rural/Natural Beauty-Rural Character/Atmosphere (12)
- Agriculture and Farmland (10)
- Small Town Atmosphere (10)
- Community Services - Fire/ambulance/police/ etc. (10)
- Roads/snow removal (9)
- Recreation and Open Space (8)

Significant Countywide Opportunities

- New Residential Development – Subdivisions/assisted living/starter homes/affordable housing (12)
- Business and Industry – Creation, attraction and support (12)
- New and Existing Recreation Areas (10)

Significant Countywide Issues (also called threats)

- Preservation of Natural Resources/Scenic Preservation (10)
- Availability of Jobs and Economic Opportunities (10)
- Preservation of Farm and Agricultural Lands (7)
- Declining School Enrollment (6)

Significant Countywide Weaknesses

- Lack of Job Opportunities (9)
- Lack of Commercial and Industrial Property (6)
- Lack of Housing Options – Single Family, Elderly, Affordable, Starter (6)
- High Taxes (5)

The list of strengths, opportunities, issues, and weaknesses shown in Table F.1 attempts to demonstrate how identified weaknesses and threats should be alleviated by playing on one's strengths and opportunities. Conversely, addressing some issues or weaknesses may compromise current strengths or opportunities. For instance, residential or industrial development can adversely effect the preservation of farms and natural resources. While broadening the tax base through the attraction or establishment of new businesses can have a beneficial effect on property taxes, especially in the long run, residential development requires careful analysis to determine if the proposed activities will indeed have a beneficial or an adverse effect on the tax rates. For this reason, it is strongly suggested that jurisdictions pursuing larger residential developments have a feasibility study done by a qualified consultant prior to entering into development agreements calling for expenditure of public funds, even if those funds are recoverable from the developer relatively soon or at some time in the future. The costs to the public in terms of public services resulting from development should be evaluated.

Table F.1 – Strengths/Opportunities and Weakness/Threats Relationships

Relationship between Strengths/Opportunities and Weaknesses/Threats.		Weaknesses				Issues (Threats)			
		Lack of Job Opportunities (9)	Lack of Commercial & Industrial Property (6)	Lack of Housing Options (6)	High Taxes (5)	Preservation of Natural Resources/Scenery (10)	Availability of Jobs & Economic Opportunities (10)	Preservation of Farm and Ag. Lands (7)	Declining School Enrollment (6)
Strengths	Rural/Natural Beauty-Rural Character/Atmosphere (12)					X			
	Agriculture and Farmland (10)							X	
	Small Town Atmosphere (10)								
	Community Services - Fire/ambulance/police/ etc. (10)								
	Roads/snow removal (9)								
	Recreation and Open Space (8)					X			
Opportunities	New Residential Development (12)			X		O		O	X
	Business & Industry – Creation, attraction, support (12)	X	X		X		X	O	X
	New and Existing Recreation Areas (10)					X		O	

Although the visioning sessions indicated that the things most important to participants were not jobs per se, but generally quality of life, the exercise of identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and issues did indicate that many jurisdictions identified the creation, attraction, and support of business and industry as an opportunity. This same opportunity for a better life was identified through residential development. Working on the jurisdiction’s strengths and opportunities can, if effectively and concertedly pursued, have a direct positive impact on many identified major weaknesses or threats.

The following are comments from cluster work groups about their dreams for economic development in their areas, and what they feel should be accomplished in order to meet their goals.

Northwest Cluster: Village of Highland, Town of Highland, Village of Avoca, Town of Pulaski

- *What are your dreams for economic development in Iowa County or your area?*
 - Improve transportation that includes building a new bridge between Avoca and Gotham.
 - The NW corner of Iowa County attracts technology companies to the area that provide good jobs.

- *What does Iowa County or your communities need to do?*
 - Greater citizen participation in promoting our communities.
 - Patronize local businesses.

Northeast Cluster: Village of Arena, Town of Arena, Town of Clyde and Town of Wyoming

- *What are your dreams for economic development in Iowa County or your area?*
 - Arena is a rural bedroom community.
 - Clyde and Wyoming a rural agriculture, land steward, residential place.
- *What does Iowa County or your communities need to do?*
 - Towns need to support the Village and its goals of economic development and self-sufficiency, while maintaining the rural character of their areas.
 - Town of Arena would accept some annexation by the Village of Arena.

Central Cluster: City of Dodgeville, Town of Dodgeville, Village of Ridgeway, Town of Ridgeway

- *What are your dreams for economic development in Iowa County or your area?*
 - Adaptive reuse of existing farm buildings and dwellings in rural and city areas.
 - Increase tourism, agricultural base, bed-and-breakfasts, artists, outdoor recreation, and affordable housing for all.
- *What does Iowa County or your communities need to do?*
 - Set goals and cooperate and communicate.

Southwest Cluster: Village of Linden, Town of Linden, Town of Eden, Town of Mifflin

- *What are your dreams for economic development in Iowa County or your area?*
 - Healthcare for everyone.
 - More diversity in retail and manufacturing (a downtown shoe store).
 - An economic climate that will attract young people and encourage them to stay here and provide a good living yet continue the rural way of life.
 - No urban sprawl.
- *What does Iowa County or your communities need to do?*
 - Pull in more diverse manufacturing.
 - Needs to capitalize on tourism -- House on the Rock, Taliesin, Mineral Point, rustic roads, Governor Dodge, Wisconsin Cheese, bike trails, affordable opportunities, Blackhawk Park.
 - Advertise more (e.g. Uplands).

South Central Cluster: City of Mineral Point, Town of Mineral Point, and Town of Waldwick

- *What are your dreams for economic development in Iowa County or your area?*
 - We want our development to be non-abusive to ground water, good for the eye and air.
 - Employers that pay a good wage to improve quality of life.
 - We want this area to be a good area to grow up.
- *What does Iowa County or your communities need to do?*
 - County could have a compendium or list of the cities and towns and what they offer. List commercial areas, housing areas, parks, hotels, restaurants, tourist attractions, provide a summary for each governmental unit.

Southeast Cluster: Village of Hollandale, Town of Moscow, Village of Blanchardville

- *What are your dreams for economic development in Iowa County or your area?*
 - Dream is train/light rail.
 - Antique center/artists. Emphasis on arts -- tourism destination.
 - Senior Center.
 - Assisted living -- graduated care.
 - A café.

- *What does Iowa County or your communities need to do?*
 - Zoning that allows for home-based businesses.
 - Better Internet connectivity.
 - Try to keep business local, encourage local trading.
 - Publicize what we have to offer.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESULTS FROM THE COUNTYWIDE PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

- Eighty-two percent of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that Iowa County should work to coordinate efforts to actively recruit new businesses and industry.
- Sixty percent of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that all Iowa County communities should provide at least some land with infrastructure (water, sewer access, etc.) for industrial and commercial uses either owned publicly or privately.
- Sixty-eight percent of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that development at the edge of cities and villages should be required to have municipal water and sewer services.
- The following types of businesses were most desired by the survey respondents:

Business Type	Essential	Very Important	Important
a. Agricultural	41%	33%	18%
b. Commercial / Retail	19%	35%	32%
c. Downtown / Main Street	20%	29%	33%
d. Home based businesses	9%	22%	38%
e. Industrial & Manufacturing	15%	30%	35%
f. Tourism & Recreation	26%	31%	28%

LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Tables F.2 through F. 13 provide a variety of data, which includes age and sex for the county and minor civil divisions, with comparisons in many cases to the State of Wisconsin. Included is a list of major employers in Iowa County.

Table F.2 – Employment Status And Commuting To Work: 2000

Geographic area	Population 16 years and over--		Civilian labor force-- Percent Unemployed	Workers 16 years and over Percent worked outside county of residence
	Percent in labor force			
	Total	Female		
Iowa County	75.5	71.7	3.9	36.5
COUNTY SUBDIVISION AND PLACE				
Arena village	79.6	72.5	2.4	80.3
Arena town	75.9	70.4	5.1	70.9
Avoca village	64.3	55.3	8.4	73.9
Barneveld village	78.4	78.4	2.8	68.2
Blanchardville village (Iowa part)	74.5	68.1	3.9	83.6
Blanchardville village (Lafayette part)	69.1	65.6	0.9	71.1
Brigham town	78.8	72.2	2.9	49.0
Clyde town	73.0	71.8	4.0	40.8
Cobb village	69.1	67.8	3.2	23.6
Dodgeville city	77.3	76.8	4.8	22.2
Dodgeville town	76.4	71.8	1.7	22.0
Eden town	78.2	69.5	3.3	15.8
Highland village	75.6	72.1	3.3	25.4
Highland town	74.0	68.6	3.7	21.1
Hollandale village	56.1	52.3	2.5	74.8
Linden village	71.6	66.0	6.7	27.8
Linden town	66.7	56.4	2.9	15.8
Livingston village (part)	85.7	80.0	0.0	8.3
Mifflin town	82.8	80.4	3.7	21.7
Mineral Point city	72.8	69.6	3.5	25.8
Mineral Point town	79.0	72.6	3.2	20.5
Montfort village (part)	72.0	65.4	0.0	16.7
Moscow town	82.2	79.5	4.5	49.9
Muscoda village (part)	74.1	63.0	0.0	85.0
Pulaski town	79.2	75.4	3.5	47.8
Rewey village	62.7	58.3	0.8	40.2
Ridgeway village	77.3	72.1	4.4	55.7
Ridgeway town	77.2	76.6	5.8	38.1
Waldwick town	77.5	73.7	4.4	22.6
Wyoming town	79.8	74.4	4.9	54.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3. Prepared by SWWRPC.

Table F.2 above is generally self-explanatory. Three-quarters of the adult population are in the labor force, and only slightly fewer females than males participate in the work force as a percent of all persons age 16 and over. It should be noted that the female population is larger for this broad age group, so employment among women is nearly at full employment. Only 3.9 percent of workers were unemployed at the time of the census. More than one out of every three persons employed commute outside of the county for employment.

Table F.3 – Occupation of Employed Civilians 16 Years and Over: 2000

Geographic Area	Percent Distribution by Occupation					
	Management, professional, and related occupations	Service occupations	Sales and Office Occupations	Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	Production, transport, and material moving occupations
Iowa County	30.9	12.8	25.5	2.5	10.9	17.4
Arena village	15.0	17.0	24.5	0.6	18.9	24.0
Arena town	27.2	12.8	25.6	2.2	15.8	16.5
Avoca village	12.2	12.9	24.7	1.1	14.0	35.1
Barneveld village	31.1	11.4	27.2	0.3	13.9	16.0
Blanchardville (pt)	27.4	11.0	30.1	0.0	9.6	21.9
Brigham town	43.8	12.2	19.9	5.3	10.3	8.5
Clyde town	34.3	10.1	23.1	4.7	13.0	14.8
Cobb village	31.8	6.9	35.9	0.8	9.8	14.7
Dodgeville city	28.2	17.4	30.8	0.4	6.2	17.0
Dodgeville town	40.0	10.0	22.1	1.6	10.8	15.5
Eden town	36.6	6.3	18.5	12.7	16.6	9.3
Highland village	23.0	12.8	31.0	0.0	16.5	16.7
Highland town	34.8	11.2	18.1	8.7	12.6	14.6
Hollandale village	14.7	8.6	39.7	1.7	16.4	19.0
Linden village	20.6	18.1	23.5	2.5	18.1	17.3
Linden town	34.7	8.1	23.0	5.6	9.3	19.3
Livingston village (pt)	8.3	66.7	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0
Mifflin town	41.1	5.5	25.9	9.0	7.9	10.5
Mineral Point city	29.9	13.9	25.6	0.6	9.6	20.5
Mineral Point town	39.5	14.1	18.5	3.3	9.0	15.5
Montfort village (part)	27.8	19.4	22.2	0.0	19.4	11.1
Moscow town	44.5	11.8	18.9	4.1	7.7	13.0
Muscoda village (pt)	5.0	10.0	17.5	10.0	12.5	45.0
Pulaski town	35.6	11.3	17.6	5.9	9.5	20.3
Rewey village	25.2	11.8	27.6	3.9	15.0	16.5
Ridgeway village	13.2	11.5	30.3	1.0	15.8	28.2
Ridgeway town	37.0	10.6	23.6	3.1	7.1	18.6
Waldwick town	34.7	5.9	28.7	6.9	8.9	14.9
Wyoming town	45.6	9.2	15.4	0.0	10.8	19.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3, prepared by SWWRPC.

Table F.3 data above are major occupational groups. (“Occupation” refers to the type of work a person does on the job.) For Iowa County residents, only 2.5 percent of the population is in the farming, fishing and forestry occupations, while the table on the following page identifies slightly more than ten percent in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industry. Many people identify themselves as working in the agricultural industry, while not farming. More than 30 percent of residents are in management and other professional occupational categories. This percentage approaches 45 percent in many areas. Data is available at a more detailed occupational level from the American FactFinder on the US Census Bureau’s web site (<http://www.census.gov>).

Table F.4 – Industry and Class of Worker of Employed Civilians 16 Years and Over: 2000

Geographic Area	Percent in Selected Industries		Percent government workers (local, state or federal)
	Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	Manufacturing	
Iowa County	10.3	13.6	11.6
Arena village	2.2	20.6	10.0
Arena town	8.1	16.9	12.7
Avoca village	4.1	35.4	10.7
Barneveld village	2.1	10.9	11.7
Blanchardville village (Iowa part)	2.7	15.1	23.3
Blanchardville village (Lafayette part)	2.9	16.0	9.6
Brigham town	17.3	10.3	10.9
Clyde town	16.0	5.9	11.8
Cobb village	4.5	11.4	18.8
Dodgeville city	2.2	13.1	10.1
Dodgeville town	12.1	10.8	11.9
Eden town	40.0	2.4	9.3
Highland village	1.4	13.4	16.5
Highland town	27.0	10.3	8.9
Hollandale village	5.2	17.2	5.2
Linden village	3.6	17.0	10.5
Linden town	23.5	11.6	9.1
Livingston village (pt)	25.0	8.3	0.0
Mifflin town	35.6	7.9	12.2
Mineral Point city	2.7	16.1	12.0
Mineral Point town	22.0	8.8	9.8
Montfort village (part)	8.3	19.4	33.3
Moscow town	20.1	9.4	11.8
Muscoda village (pt)	10.0	57.5	5.0
Pulaski town	23.4	22.5	7.7
Rewey village	6.3	18.1	15.7
Ridgeway village	3.1	17.8	9.9
Ridgeway town	19.3	12.1	11.8
Waldwick town	27.7	5.0	14.5
Wyoming town	8.7	14.9	20.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3. Prepared by the SWWRPC.

Table F.4 above is similar to Table F.3, except that it shows information for two industrial classifications and one class of worker classification, rather than occupation. (“Industry” relates to the kind of business conducted by a person’s employing organization.) There are more persons employed in manufacturing and local, state and federal government than in agriculture countywide. Many of the government workers, of course, commute to state jobs in Dane County.

Manufacturing accounted for 13.6 percent of all resident’s jobs in 2000, compared to 22.2 percent for Wisconsin and 14.1 percent for the United States. Agriculture and the related industries accounted for only 2.7 percent of jobs in Wisconsin and even less nationally at 1.5 percent of all jobs.

Table F.5 – Labor Force Participation Rates By Age Group For Minor Civil Divisions

	Arena village	Arena town	Avoca village	Barneveld village	Blanchard- ville vill.	Brigham town	Clyde town	Cobb village	Dodgeville city	Dodgeville town
Total:	465	1,190	460	819	102	709	241	366	3,268	1,133
Male:	247	598	232	402	55	367	138	189	1,497	577
16 to 24 years:	47	75	32	50	10	46	19	39	195	53
In labor force:	41	54	28	37	8	32	12	21	158	35
LF Participation	87.2%	72.0%	87.5%	74.0%	80.0%	69.6%	63.2%	53.8%	81.0%	66.0%
25 to 44 years:	115	238	86	220	19	156	41	64	641	195
In labor force:	108	221	79	191	19	151	39	61	580	186
LF Participation	93.9%	92.9%	91.9%	86.8%	100.0%	96.8%	95.1%	95.3%	90.5%	95.4%
45 to 61 years:	61	200	63	90	17	108	44	44	364	222
In labor force:	59	173	57	79	15	103	37	40	320	206
LF Participation	96.7%	86.5%	90.5%	87.8%	88.2%	95.4%	84.1%	90.9%	87.9%	92.8%
62 to 69 years:	5	45	21	18	5	21	18	10	99	32
In labor force:	0	29	4	4	2	15	12	3	59	16
LF Participation	0.0%	64.4%	19.0%	22.2%	40.0%	71.4%	66.7%	30.0%	59.6%	50.0%
70 years and over:	19	40	30	24	4	36	16	32	198	75
In labor force:	4	9	2	4	0	11	2	8	49	24
LF Participation	21.1%	22.5%	6.7%	16.7%	0.0%	30.6%	12.5%	25.0%	24.7%	32.0%
Female:	218	592	228	417	47	342	103	177	1,771	556
16 to 24 years:	33	77	23	53	4	39	11	16	228	75
In labor force:	31	47	16	38	4	29	9	16	197	50
LF Participation	93.9%	61.0%	69.6%	71.7%	100.0%	74.4%	81.8%	100.0%	86.4%	66.7%
25 to 44 years:	101	239	78	218	18	153	26	68	690	198
In labor force:	84	201	66	206	18	142	19	54	651	188
LF Participation	83.2%	84.1%	84.6%	94.5%	100.0%	92.8%	73.1%	79.4%	94.3%	94.9%
45 to 61 years:	47	177	64	83	15	85	36	42	363	171
In labor force:	37	141	39	68	8	62	34	42	342	137
LF Participation	78.7%	79.7%	60.9%	81.9%	53.3%	72.9%	94.4%	100.0%	94.2%	80.1%
62 to 69 years:	11	52	20	20	3	23	14	16	138	41
In labor force:	4	17	5	11	0	9	12	8	106	10
LF Participation	36.4%	32.7%	25.0%	55.0%	0.0%	39.1%	85.7%	50.0%	76.8%	24.4%
70 years and over:	26	47	43	43	7	42	16	35	352	71
In labor force:	2	11	0	4	2	5	0	0	65	14
LF Participation	7.7%	23.4%	0.0%	9.3%	28.6%	11.9%	0.0%	0.0%	18.5%	19.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3. Prepared by the SWWRPC.

TABLE F.5 (cont.) – Labor Force Participation Rates By Age Group For Minor Civil Divisions

	Eden town	Highland village	Highland town	Hollandale village	Linden village	Linden town	Mifflin town	Mineral Point city
Total:	271	672	616	212	415	664	430	2,027
Male:	153	314	313	103	200	350	226	947
16 to 25 years:	26	53	45	14	42	44	36	127
In labor force:	17	44	20	12	28	35	25	102
LF Participation	65.4%	83.0%	44.4%	85.7%	66.7%	79.5%	69.4%	80.3%
25 to 44 years:	69	136	104	35	101	114	92	370
In labor force:	65	127	102	27	88	109	92	353
LF Participation	94.2%	93.4%	98.1%	77.1%	87.1%	95.6%	100.0%	95.4%
45 to 61 years:	37	58	103	23	36	106	66	246
In labor force:	35	47	97	17	31	94	61	221
LF Participation	94.6%	81.0%	94.2%	73.9%	86.1%	88.7%	92.4%	89.8%
62 to 69 years:	8	27	36	8	6	31	22	76
In labor force:	7	21	20	6	2	7	11	21
LF Participation	87.5%	77.8%	55.6%	75.0%	33.3%	22.6%	50.0%	27.6%
70 years and over:	13	40	25	23	15	55	10	128
In labor force:	6	11	9	0	6	21	3	27
LF Participation	46.2%	27.5%	36.0%	0.0%	40.0%	38.2%	30.0%	21.1%
Female:	118	358	303	109	215	314	204	1080
16 to 25 years:	8	59	39	10	36	24	19	122
In labor force:	8	47	23	5	25	10	15	100
LF Participation	100.0%	79.7%	59.0%	50.0%	69.4%	41.7%	78.9%	82.0%
25 to 44 years:	54	125	111	32	99	116	92	369
In labor force:	43	118	100	29	80	94	79	354
LF Participation	79.6%	94.4%	90.1%	90.6%	80.8%	81.0%	85.9%	95.9%
45 to 61 years:	35	75	91	23	35	82	69	255
In labor force:	29	63	76	23	29	64	63	212
LF Participation	82.9%	84.0%	83.5%	100.0%	82.9%	78.0%	91.3%	83.1%
62 to 69 years:	9	42	23	3	17	19	13	94
In labor force:	2	22	9	0	6	7	7	44
LF Participation	22.2%	52.4%	39.1%	0.0%	35.3%	36.8%	53.8%	46.8%
70 years and over:	12	57	39	41	28	73	11	240
In labor force:	0	8	0	0	2	2	0	42
LF Participation	0.0%	14.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%	2.7%	0.0%	17.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3. Prepared by the SWWRPC.

TABLE F.5 (cont.) – Labor Force Participation Rates By Age Group For Minor Civil Divisions

	Mineral Point town	Moscow town	Pulaski town	Rewey Village	Ridgeway Village	Ridgeway town	Waldwick town	Wyoming town
Total:	666	432	293	204	532	443	409	257
Male:	363	227	151	89	274	221	200	136
16 to 25 years:	75	19	35	15	51	19	34	10
In labor force:	46	5	24	7	42	8	24	7
LF Participation	61.3%	26.3%	68.6%	46.7%	82.4%	42.1%	70.6%	70.0%
25 to 44 years:	129	93	53	36	119	90	73	48
In labor force:	128	85	50	32	111	79	71	43
LF Participation	99.2%	91.4%	94.3%	88.9%	93.3%	87.8%	97.3%	89.6%
45 to 61 years:	108	90	49	19	64	76	51	60
In labor force:	104	89	43	19	53	71	47	53
LF Participation	96.3%	98.9%	87.8%	100.0%	82.8%	93.4%	92.2%	88.3%
62 to 69 years:	29	16	4	11	16	21	29	7
In labor force:	22	10	4	3	10	12	18	5
LF Participation	75.9%	62.5%	100.0%	27.3%	62.5%	57.1%	62.1%	71.4%
70 years and over:	22	9	10	8	24	15	13	11
In labor force:	6	3	4	0	9	2	3	7
LF Participation	27.3%	33.3%	40.0%	0.0%	37.5%	13.3%	23.1%	63.6%
Female:	50	205	142	115	258	222	209	121
16 to 25 years:	29	28	23	23	37	25	13	2
In labor force:	58.0%	20	12	17	29	15	11	0
LF Participation		71.4%	52.2%	73.9%	78.4%	60.0%	84.6%	0.0%
25 to 44 years:	127	93	60	38	124	96	75	57
In labor force:	82.7%	88	57	30	104	82	65	42
LF Participation		94.6%	95.0%	78.9%	83.9%	85.4%	86.7%	73.7%
45 to 61 years:	92	63	36	26	53	64	68	50
In labor force:	78.3%	51	34	16	43	60	66	44
LF Participation		81.0%	94.4%	61.5%	81.1%	93.8%	97.1%	88.0%
62 to 69 years:	24	12	6	16	20	14	22	4
In labor force:	41.7%	2	4	4	6	13	12	4
LF Participation		16.7%	66.7%	25.0%	30.0%	92.9%	54.5%	100.0%
70 years and over:	10	9	17	12	24	23	31	8
In labor force:	40.0%	2	0	0	4	0	0	0
LF Participation		22.2%	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3. Prepared by the SWWRPC.

Table F.6 shows the labor force participation rates for males and females by broad age group for the county, the state, and the nation. As can be seen from the age-specific labor force rates in Table F.2, the local participation rate in Iowa County is considerably higher than the state and nation as a whole for persons of normal working years age 16 to 64. This is true for both sexes, but is especially so for males. As noted in Table F.5, the percent of population that is of retirement age or above will influence rates for the older age group. A lower rate can be expected among women of retirement age than men because there is a higher population of women in these years. The percent of women in the labor force in Iowa County is approximately double for persons of retirement age, compared to the state and the nation. The participation rate for males is also higher than that of the state or nation by a considerable margin.

Table F.6: Age-Specific Labor Force Participation Rates For Comparison

Age specific Labor Force Participation Rate	Population 16-64 years			Population 65 years and over		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
Iowa County	86.0	87.8	84.1	25.5	31.7	20.7
State of Wisconsin	80.3	83.6	77.0	13.8	18.6	10.4
United States	73.6	79.1	68.3	13.3	18.4	9.7

Table F.7: Work Status In 1999 By Weeks & Hours Usually Worked, By Sex

Weeks usually worked	Both Sexes (13,941)			Weeks usually worked	Both Sexes (%)		
	Hours per week usually worked				Hours per week usually worked		
	35+ hrs.	15-34 hrs.	1-14 hrs.		35+ hrs.	15-34 hrs.	1-14 hrs.
50-52 wks.	8,640	1,277	276	50-52 wks.	62.0	9.2	2.0
40-49 wks.	983	396	67	40-49 wks.	7.1	2.8	0.5
27-39 wks.	588	287	69	27-39 wks.	4.2	2.1	0.5
< 27 wks.	579	559	220	< 27 wks.	4.2	4.0	1.6

Weeks usually worked	Males (7,244)			Weeks usually worked	Males (%)		
	Hours per week usually worked				Hours per week usually worked		
	35+ hrs.	15-34 hrs.	1-14 hrs.		35+ hrs.	15-34 hrs.	1-14 hrs.
50-52 wks.	5,072	290	131	50-52 wks.	70.0	4.0	1.8
40-49 wks.	517	127	26	40-49 wks.	7.1	1.8	0.4
27-39 wks.	306	70	26	27-39 wks.	4.2	1.0	0.4
< 27 wks.	317	259	103	< 27 wks.	4.4	3.6	1.4

Weeks usually worked	Females (6,697)			Weeks usually worked	Females (%)		
	Hours per week usually worked				Hours per week usually worked		
	35+ hrs.	15-34 hrs.	1-14 hrs.		35+ hrs.	15-34 hrs.	1-14 hrs.
50-52 wks.	3,568	987	145	50-52 wks.	53.3	14.7	2.2
40-49 wks.	466	269	41	40-49 wks.	7.0	4.0	0.6
27-39 wks.	282	217	43	27-39 wks.	4.2	3.2	0.6
< 27 wks.	262	300	117	< 27 wks.	3.9	4.5	1.7

Table F.7 shows the degree of full time work status and part time work status for Iowa County. Less than two thirds of all persons age 16 or more who worked in 1999 worked year round and full time (70 percent for males and 53 percent for females). This excludes persons who may normally work year-round, but did not work due to job changes or other reasons, but should be considered typical of any given time period.

Persons who usually worked full time whenever they worked in 1999 represented a little over three quarters (77 percent) of the workers (86 percent for males and 68 percent of females).

Table F.8 Employment Status For Iowa County, Wisconsin: 2000

Geographic Area: Iowa County, Wisconsin			Wisconsin	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
EMPLOYMENT STATUS				
Population 16 years and over	17,414	100.0	4,157,030	100.0
In labor force	13,139	75.5	2,872,104	69.1
Civilian labor force	13,133	75.4	2,869,236	69.0
Employed	12,618	72.5	2,734,925	65.8
Unemployed	515	3.0	134,311	3.2
Percent of civilian labor force	3.9	(X)	4.7	(X)
Not in labor force	4,275	24.5	1,284,926	30.9
Females 16 years and over				
Females 16 years and over	8,790	100.0	2,127,011	100.0
In labor force	6,300	71.7	1,363,825	64.1
Civilian labor force	6,300	71.7	1,363,383	64.1
Employed	6,061	69.0	1,306,432	61.4
Unemployed	239	2.7	56,951	4.2
Percent of civilian labor force	3.8	(X)	2.7	(X)
Not in labor force	2,490	28.3	763,186	35.9
Employed civilian population 16 years and over				
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	12,618	100.0	2,734,925	100.0
OCCUPATION				
Management, professional, and related occupations	3,898	30.9	857,205	31.3
Service occupations	1,611	12.8	383,619	14.0
Sales and office occupations	3,221	25.5	690,360	25.2
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	315	2.5	25,725	0.9
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	1,378	10.9	237,086	8.7
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	2,195	17.4	540,930	19.8
INDUSTRY				
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	1,314	10.4	75,418	2.8
Construction	1,163	9.2	161,625	5.9
Manufacturing	1,717	13.6	606,845	22.2
Wholesale trade	305	2.4	87,979	3.2
Retail trade	2,990	23.7	317,881	11.6
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	414	3.3	123,657	4.5
Information	155	1.2	60,142	2.2
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	547	4.3	168,060	6.1
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	490	3.9	179,503	6.6
Educational, health and social services	2,140	17.0	548,111	20.0
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	689	5.5	198,528	7.3
Other services (except public administration)	349	2.8	111,028	4.1
Public administration	345	2.7	96,148	3.5
CLASS OF WORKER				
Private wage and salary workers	9,446	74.9	2,217,490	81.1
Government workers	1,461	11.6	340,792	12.5
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	1,574	12.5	167,248	6.1
Unpaid family workers	137	1.1	9,395	0.3

Source: US Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census, DP-3 Profile of Economic Characteristics, prepared by SWWRPC.

Table F.9 – Income Characteristics for Iowa County, Wisconsin: 2000

Iowa County			Wisconsin	
INCOME IN 1999	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Households	8,777	100.0	2,086,304	100.0
Less than \$10,000	611	7.0	148,964	7.1
\$10,000 to \$14,999	479	5.5	121,366	5.8
\$15,000 to \$24,999	1,147	13.1	264,897	12.7
\$25,000 to \$34,999	1,261	14.4	276,033	13.2
\$35,000 to \$49,999	1,654	18.8	377,749	18.1
\$50,000 to \$74,999	2,148	24.5	474,299	22.7
\$75,000 to \$99,999	882	10.0	226,374	10.9
\$100,000 to \$149,999	432	4.9	133,719	6.4
\$150,000 to \$199,999	75	0.9	30,598	1.5
\$200,000 or more	88	1.0	32,305	1.5
Median household income (dollars)	42,518	(X)	43,791	(X)
With earnings	7,494	85.4	1,706,803	81.8
Mean earnings (dollars)	47,936	(X)	53,084	(X)
With Social Security income	2,207	25.1	550,044	26.4
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	10,535	(X)	11,811	(X)
With Supplemental Security Income	283	3.2	71,359	3.4
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	5,714	(X)	6,330	(X)
With public assistance income	150	1.7	35,695	1.7
Mean public assistance income (dollars)	1,440	(X)	2,533	(X)
With retirement income	1,102	12.6	327,570	15.7
Mean retirement income (dollars)	20,238	(X)	15,759	(X)
Families	6,239	100.0	1,395,037	100.0
Less than \$10,000	198	3.2	49,392	3.5
\$10,000 to \$14,999	185	3.0	42,055	3.0
\$15,000 to \$24,999	609	9.8	127,576	9.1
\$25,000 to \$34,999	817	13.1	161,209	11.6
\$35,000 to \$49,999	1,313	21.0	260,429	18.7
\$50,000 to \$74,999	1,813	29.1	384,735	27.6
\$75,000 to \$99,999	801	12.8	196,614	14.1
\$100,000 to \$149,999	370	5.9	118,408	8.5
\$150,000 to \$199,999	71	1.1	27,061	1.9
\$200,000 or more	62	1.0	27,558	2.0
Median family income (dollars)	49,972	(X)	52,911	(X)
Per capita income (dollars)	19,497	(X)	21,271	(X)
Median earnings (dollars):				
Male full-time, year-round workers	31,234	(X)	37,062	(X)
Female full-time, year-round workers	23,762	(X)	25,865	(X)
POVERTY STATUS IN 1999 (below poverty level)				
Families	311	(X)	78,188	(X)
Percent below poverty level	(X)	5.0	(X)	5.6
Individuals	1,640	(X)	451,538	(X)
Percent below poverty level	(X)	7.3	(X)	8.7

Source: US Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census, DP-3 Profile of Economic Characteristics, prepared by SWWRPC.

Table F.10 – Income and Poverty Characteristics for County Subdivisions: 1999

	Median income in 1999 (dollars)		Per capita income in 1999 (dollars)	Median earnings in 1999 of full-time, year-round workers (dollars)		Income in 1999 below poverty level		
	Households	Families		Male	Female	Percent of population for whom poverty status is determined		Percent of families
						All ages	Age 65 years +	
Iowa County	42,518	49,972	19,497	31,234	23,762	7.3	12.6	5.0
Arena village	45,870	49,375	20,765	31,953	24,688	3.7	11.1	0.0
Arena town	51,042	54,844	20,060	35,341	26,691	6.7	6.6	4.8
Avoca village	28,625	31,786	16,758	25,795	21,750	17.3	14.6	12.2
Barneveld village	55,350	58,393	22,009	34,107	25,380	7.5	5.5	4.7
Blanchardville village (Iowa part)	37,250	41,875	19,009	35,714	23,750	8.8	0.0	6.5
Blanchardville vill. (Lafayette part)	42,750	52,237	17,933	31,645	26,394	9.9	9.3	6.7
Brigham town	57,500	65,208	23,469	35,104	27,143	5.5	13.3	4.8
Clyde town	50,625	57,969	27,920	37,188	27,917	6.0	6.0	2.4
Cobb village	34,531	40,278	18,815	32,143	21,838	4.2	7.9	2.2
Dodgeville city	41,615	50,755	20,962	32,738	24,047	5.3	16.0	2.7
Dodgeville town	49,327	58,203	22,521	34,474	26,591	4.9	6.8	3.1
Eden town	42,813	48,250	18,084	24,861	21,964	8.8	5.1	7.5
Highland village	37,228	44,875	16,176	30,250	22,000	7.2	13.2	4.8
Highland town	37,868	43,056	17,361	25,278	22,115	6.8	10.5	5.0
Hollandale village	35,938	50,139	21,141	34,167	23,036	3.5	5.8	2.9
Linden village	35,833	48,750	16,331	29,250	20,938	8.8	13.6	6.8
Linden town	36,726	40,139	15,446	26,111	22,237	13.3	11.3	12.3
Livingston village (part)	29,167	29,167	5,896	19,167	0	0.0	(X)	0.0
Mifflin town	42,083	46,250	15,129	23,409	21,806	11.5	9.8	5.1
Mineral Point city	43,182	52,137	21,097	31,750	23,396	4.9	15.6	3.8
Mineral Point town	42,171	47,500	17,337	29,545	23,906	8.5	16.7	9.2
Montfort village (part)	45,625	62,500	19,366	28,125	22,500	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moscow town	45,000	44,712	17,515	33,036	25,313	6.2	7.5	4.1
Muscoda village (part)	30,000	31,250	12,325	23,125	16,563	7.1	0.0	7.7
Pulaski town	43,036	46,250	15,561	26,250	21,923	9.2	30.3	8.5
Rewey village	24,643	28,333	12,298	25,714	23,333	10.6	16.7	5.9
Ridgeway village	41,548	50,795	17,887	32,250	22,308	10.8	14.5	3.6
Ridgeway town	50,938	54,500	18,419	35,455	27,344	11.2	19.2	8.4
Waldwick town	39,271	39,792	15,446	28,750	18,864	13.6	8.6	10.0
Wyoming town	48,438	56,607	23,253	33,393	40,673	9.7	20.8	6.9

Source: US Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census, DP-3 Profile of Economic Characteristics, prepared by SWWRPC.

BEARFACTS 1991 – 2001**Iowa, Wisconsin (55049)**

Iowa is one of seventy-two counties in Wisconsin. It became part of the Madison, WI Metropolitan Statistical Area on June 6, 2003. Its 2001 population of 22,974-ranked 48th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

In 2001 Iowa had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of \$24,601. **This PCPI ranked 35th in the state and was eighty-four percent of the state average**, \$29,196, and eighty-one percent of the national average, \$30,413. The 2001 PCPI reflected an increase of 5.8 percent from 2000. The 2000-2001 state change was 2.8 percent and the national change was 2.2 percent.

In 1991 the PCPI of Iowa was \$14,631 and ranked 46th in the state. The 1991-2001 average annual growth rate of PCPI was 5.3 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state and nation was 4.6 percent and 4.3 percent.

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

In 2001 Iowa had a total personal income (TPI) of \$565,187,000. This TPI ranked 45th in the state and accounted for 0.4 percent of the state total. In 1991 the TPI of Iowa was \$297,322,000 and ranked 48th in the state. The 2001 TPI reflected an increase of 6.6 percent from 2000. The 2000-2001 state change was 3.4 percent and the national change was 3.3 percent. The 1991-2001 average annual growth rate of TPI was 6.6 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.5 percent and for the nation was 5.5 percent.

COMPONENTS OF TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

Total personal income includes net earnings by place of residence; dividends, interest, and rent; and transfer payments received by the residents of Iowa. In 2001 net earnings accounted for 67.5 percent of TPI (compared with 65.5 in 1991); dividends, interest, and rent were 20.0 percent (compared with 20.8 in 1991); and transfer payments were 12.5 percent (compared with 13.7 in 1991). From 2000 to 2001 net earnings increased 7.2 percent; dividends, interest, and rent increased 2.3 percent; and transfer payments increased 10.3 percent. From 1991 to 2001 net earnings increased on average 7.0 percent each year; dividends, interest, and rent increased on average 6.2 percent; and transfer payments increased on average 5.7 percent.

EARNINGS BY PLACE OF WORK

Earnings of persons employed in Iowa increased from \$361,074,000 in 2000 to \$391,792 in 2001, an increase of 8.5 percent. The 2000-2001 state change was 2.5 percent and the national change was 2.5 percent. The average annual growth rate from the 1991 estimate of \$184,214,000 to the 2001 estimate was 7.8 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.5 percent and for the nation was 5.6 percent.

Note: Income estimates are not adjusted for inflation.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Table F.11 – Sex of Worker by Industry & Class for the Employed Civilian Population 16 Years & Over

INDUSTRY	Both Sexes	Male:	Female:	Both Sexes	Male:	Female:
Iowa County Totals	12,618	6,557	6,061	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
All industries except ag., forestry, fishing & hunting, and mining:	11,304	5,465	5,839	89.6%	83.3%	96.3%
Private for-profit wage and salary workers:	8,300	4,140	4,160	65.8%	63.1%	68.6%
Employee of private company	7,937	3,875	4,062	62.9%	59.1%	67.0%
Self-employed in own incorporated business	363	265	98	2.9%	4.0%	1.6%
Private not-for-profit wage and salary workers	721	209	512	5.7%	3.2%	8.4%
Local government workers	777	312	465	6.2%	4.8%	7.7%
State government workers	570	237	333	4.5%	3.6%	5.5%
Federal government workers	101	57	44	0.8%	0.9%	0.7%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	780	484	296	6.2%	7.4%	4.9%
Unpaid family workers	55	26	29	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining:	1,314	1,092	222	10.4%	16.7%	3.7%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting:	1,299	1,077	222	10.3%	16.4%	3.7%
Private for-profit wage and salary workers:	408	331	77	3.2%	5.0%	1.3%
Employee of private company	291	237	54	2.3%	3.6%	0.9%
Self-employed in own incorporated business	117	94	23	0.9%	1.4%	0.4%
Private not-for-profit wage and salary workers	2	2	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Local government workers	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
State government workers	7	7	0	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Federal government workers	6	4	2	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	794	675	119	6.3%	10.3%	2.0%
Unpaid family workers	82	58	24	0.6%	0.9%	0.4%

Table F.12 – Sex of Employed Civilian Population 16 Years & Over by Industry: 2000

INDUSTRY	Both Sexes	Male:	Female:	Both Sexes	Male:	Female:
Iowa County Totals:	12,618	6,557	6,061	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining:	1,314	1,092	222	10.4%	16.7%	3.7%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	1,299	1,077	222	10.3%	16.4%	3.7%
Mining	15	15	0	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%
Construction	1,163	1,094	69	9.2%	16.7%	1.1%
Manufacturing	1,717	1,214	503	13.6%	18.5%	8.3%
Wholesale trade	305	226	79	2.4%	3.4%	1.3%
Retail trade	2,990	1,031	1,959	23.7%	15.7%	32.3%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities:	414	347	67	3.3%	5.3%	1.1%
Transportation and warehousing	335	279	56	2.7%	4.3%	0.9%
Utilities	79	68	11	0.6%	1.0%	0.2%
Information	155	59	96	1.2%	0.9%	1.6%
Finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing:	547	208	339	4.3%	3.2%	5.6%
Finance and insurance	462	149	313	3.7%	2.3%	5.2%
Real estate and rental and leasing	85	59	26	0.7%	0.9%	0.4%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services:	490	241	249	3.9%	3.7%	4.1%
Professional, scientific, and technical services	319	151	168	2.5%	2.3%	2.8%
Management of companies and enterprises	3	0	3	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Administrative and support and waste management services	168	90	78	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%
Educational, health and social services:	2,140	436	1,704	17.0%	6.6%	28.1%
Educational services	949	321	628	7.5%	4.9%	10.4%
Health care and social assistance	1,191	115	1,076	9.4%	1.8%	17.8%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services:	689	262	427	5.5%	4.0%	7.0%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	96	53	43	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%
Accommodation and food services	593	209	384	4.7%	3.2%	6.3%
Other services (except public administration)	349	189	160	2.8%	2.9%	2.6%
Public administration	345	158	187	2.7%	2.4%	3.1%

Source: 2000 Census, prepared by SWWRPC

Table F.13 – Iowa County Labor Force Projections

	2000	Low Final 2010	High Final 2010	Low Final 2020	High Final 2020	Low Final 2030	High Final 2030	Low 30 yr. Change	High 30 yr. Change
MALE									
Total:	6,862	7,394	8,102	7,635	9,032	7,617	9,655	756	2,794
16 to 19 years	399	368	403	375	444	352	446	-47	48
20 to 24 years	471	503	551	439	520	444	563	-27	91
25 to 29 years	543	636	697	603	713	627	795	85	252
30 to 34 years	774	600	657	658	778	586	743	-188	-31
35 to 39 years	964	703	770	846	1,001	819	1,038	-145	74
40 to 44 years	937	847	928	674	798	755	957	-182	20
45 to 49 years	855	998	1,093	748	885	918	1,164	64	309
50 to 54 years	730	932	1,021	865	1,024	703	892	-27	162
55 to 59 years	448	783	858	939	1,111	718	911	271	463
60 to 64 years	291	545	597	715	846	678	859	386	568
65 to 69 years	184	198	217	356	421	436	552	252	368
70 to 74 years	130	126	138	242	286	323	410	193	280
75 and over	137	156	170	173	205	257	326	120	189
FEMALE									
Total:	6,317	6,744	7,389	7,004	8,250	7,059	8,948	743	2,632
16 to 19 years	428	414	454	414	454	397	503	-31	75
20 to 24 years	388	421	461	386	457	390	495	3	107
25 to 29 years	548	655	718	652	771	678	860	130	312
30 to 34 years	745	569	623	634	750	594	753	-151	8
35 to 39 years	928	704	772	865	1,023	878	1,113	-50	185
40 to 44 years	891	770	844	604	715	687	871	-203	-19
45 to 49 years	717	894	980	697	825	873	1,107	157	390
50 to 54 years	656	873	956	775	917	620	786	-36	130
55 to 59 years	404	678	742	868	1,027	691	876	287	472
60 to 64 years	248	402	441	549	650	498	631	250	383
65 to 69 years	192	204	223	351	416	459	582	268	391
70 to 74 years	83	71	78	118	139	164	208	81	125
75 and over	89	89	97	89	105	128	163	39	73
Totals	13,178	14,138	15,491	14,639	17,282	14,677	18,604	1,498	5,426

Table F.13, prepared by the SWWRPC, requires some explanation. Population projections by age prepared by the commission for the county were used to multiply labor force participation rates (2000 rates are assumed) by each age group to obtain the projected number of workers by age. The two columns on the right reflect the difference in the number of labor force participants between the year 2000 and the projected date, the year 2030. A negative number means that the particular age group will have fewer participants in it 30 years from now than it does today. Positive numbers indicate the age groups that are expected to grow in size. In this way, it can be seen that there will be many more workers in the 55 and over age range in 2030. There will also be more workers in the 20 to 29 age range at that time.

The tables below are intended to demonstrate that even over a relatively short period of time there are many things happening in a small rural county in terms of new business formation, expansions and contractions, and business closures. Most of these are hardly even noticed by the general public at large, and thus we sometimes tend to think that the economics of a community are static.

Table F.14 represents the number of establishments by employment size class by major industry group for the year 2001 and is self-explanatory.

Table F.14 – Number of Establishments

Industry Code	Code Description	Total Establishments.	Size Classification								
			'1-4'	'5-9'	'10-19'	'20-49'	'50-99'	'100-249'	'250-499'	'500-999'	1000 +'
	Total	629	374	111	80	45	11	6	1	0	1
11----	Forestry, fishing, hunting, and agriculture support	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21----	Mining	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
22----	Utilities	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
23----	Construction	93	72	10	7	3	1	0	0	0	0
31----	Manufacturing	39	17	7	7	3	2	3	0	0	0
42----	Wholesale trade	34	17	7	4	5	0	1	0	0	0
44----	Retail trade	105	51	25	18	8	1	1	0	0	1
48----	Transportation & warehousing	29	13	9	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
51----	Information	8	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
52----	Finance & insurance	33	20	6	5	1	1	0	0	0	0
53----	Real estate & rental & leasing	17	16	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
54----	Professional, scientific & technical services	39	26	8	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
56----	Admin, support, waste mgt, remediation services	26	18	6	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
61----	Educational services	5	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
62----	Health care and social assistance	51	23	14	6	4	3	0	1	0	0
71----	Arts, entertainment & recreation	16	8	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
72----	Accommodation & food services	62	33	6	10	12	1	0	0	0	0
81----	Other services (except public administration)	59	46	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
99----	Unclassified establishments	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2001, prepared by the SWWRPC.

Table F.15 shows changes from 1998 to 2001. In that time span there were a total of 720 net new jobs created within the county and a net change of sixty-three new businesses, or an average of 240 jobs and more than twenty businesses per year. There were several industrial categories that experienced job losses, however, they were offset primarily by increases in retail trade (519). Losses occurred in seven of the major categories listed, and gains were found in eleven categories. On the positive side, manufacturing increased by 185, the second highest gain, followed by construction at sixty-seven, administrative support at sixty, and other services except public administration at forty-three. On the negative side, establishments in arts, entertainment and recreation lost a net seventy-four, while educational services lost forty-nine, followed by mining, and transportation and warehousing, each at thirty-four.

There were twenty-three net new establishments in the construction industry followed by administrative support services with ten. Wholesale trade lost three establishments employing fewer than twenty persons, and transportation and warehousing lost two establishments, at least one employing less than five, and possibly one employing 20-49.

Table F.15 – Change in Total Employment and Number of Establishments by Employment-Size Classes, 1998 – 2001

Industry	Industry Code Description	Employment Size Class							
		Net Jobs	Number of Establ.	1-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249
-----	Total	720	63	51	4	9	(4)	1	2
11----	Forestry, fishing, hunting, and agriculture support	(7)	(1)	(2)	1				
21----	Mining	(34)	1	1		1	(1)		
22----	Utilities	(22)							
23----	Construction	67	23	19	3	1	(1)	1	
31----	Manufacturing	185	6	3		2	(1)	1	1
42----	Wholesale trade	30	(3)		(1)	(4)	2	(1)	1
44----	Retail trade	519		(3)	(1)	3	1		
48----	Transportation & warehousing	(34)	(2)	(2)	1	2	(3)		
51----	Information	2							
52----	Finance & insurance	4	5	6	(2)	1	(1)	1	
53----	Real estate & rental & leasing	25	6	7	(1)	(1)	1		
54----	Professional, scientific & technical services	26	4	4		(1)	1		
56----	Admin, support, waste mgt, remediation services	60	10	7	3	(1)		1	
61----	Educational services	(49)	1	1					
62----	Health care and social assistance	10		(1)	2	(1)	1	(1)	
71----	Arts, entertainment & recreation	(74)	4	4	1			(1)	
72----	Accommodation & food services	(27)	6	6	(2)	5	(3)		
81----	Other services (except public administration)	43	6	4		2			
99----	Unclassified establishments	(3)	(3)	(3)					

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 1998 and 2001. Table prepared by SWWRPC.

Zip code county business patterns that provide specific information from year to year will yield an extremely detailed picture of the local economy. Table F.16 provides this information over a three-year period of time for cities and villages. Among the fastest growing areas being studied during the three years is the Village of Avoca, with more than a fifty percent increase in the number of establishments with employees, or a net gain of five. The Village of Blanchardville was second with a twenty-seven percent growth in the number of establishments from 1998 to 2001, or a total of ten employers. Hollandale was third in relative growth and had a twenty percent gain (three in number) in establishments with employees. In raw numbers of new businesses, Mineral Point led the way with a net gain of seventeen. This was in stark contrast to Dodgeville, which lost a net four employers, but gained 277 net new jobs, the highest job creation total of any area by far. The table also shows trends in payroll, and industrial categories. The three-year analysis provided here indicates that there were, on average, 65 to 70 "events" (a new firm, a lost firm, an expansion or a contraction (jumping size categories) each year within the county, Blanchardville not included! This indicates that something measurable by federal statistics happens to one out of every nine to ten firms each year

Table F.16 – Change in the Number of Establishments, Payroll, and Employees by Zip Code: 1998 - 2001

		Arena	Avoca	Barneveld	Blanchard ville	Cobb	Dodge- ville	Highland	Hollan- dale	Linden	Mineral Point	Rewey	Ridgeway
Change in	Number of establishments:	-2	5	-3	10	-6	-4	2	3	0	17	0	3
Change in	First quarter payroll in \$1000:	198	0	352	200	74	5,011	312	42	27	647	45	59
Change in	Number of employees:	10	-10	19	37	10	277	5	18	6	115	-14	11
Change in	Annual payroll in \$1000:	938	152	750	870	471	38,653	1,113	152	238	2,126	150	362
Pct. Change in	Number of establishments:	-7.1%	55.6%	-7.1%	27.0%	-27.3%	-1.9%	4.8%	20.0%	0.0%	14.8%	0.0%	17.6%
Pct. Change in	First quarter payroll in \$1000:	26.5%	0.0%	27.1%	39.2%	16.2%	13.4%	21.1%	23.3%	40.3%	11.0%	21.2%	24.8%
Pct. Change in	Number of employees:	6.8%	-43.5%	5.8%	30.1%	11.2%	4.2%	1.6%	34.6%	37.5%	10.0%	-23.7%	12.4%
Pct. Change in	Annual payroll in \$1000:	25.9%	98.1%	12.4%	39.0%	16.5%	25.0%	15.9%	17.7%	73.2%	7.9%	16.3%	33.8%
Industry Code	Industry Code Description	Change in the number of establishments											
-----	Total	-2	5	-3	10	-6	-4	2	3	0	17	0	3
11----	Forestry, fishing, hunting, and agriculture	1	0				0			-1			0
21----	Mining						0				0		
22----	Utilities										0		
23----	Construction	-2	2	2	2	0	2	3	1	0	3	1	2
31----	Manufacturing	-1		0	1		1	-3	0	0	2		1
42----	Wholesale trade	1		-1	2	-1	-4	0		1	1	0	0
44----	Retail trade	-1	2	-2	-2	-2	-4	-2	1	0	2	-1	1
48----	Transportation & warehousing	0		0	1	-2	0	-1	0		0		-2
51----	Information						0				0		
52----	Finance & insurance	0	1		0	-1	2	0	0		2	1	
53----	Real estate & rental & leasing			-1	-1		1		1			0	
54----	Professional, scientific & technical services	1	1	0	2	0	-3			1	2		1
56----	Admin, support, waste mgt, remediation services	-1	1	-1	-1		2	2			1		1
61----	Educational services		0				1				0		
62----	Health care and social assistance			1	1	0	-2	1	0		0		
71----	Arts, entertainment & recreation				1		3		1		2		
72----	Accommodation & food services	1	-2	0	3	0	-1	1	-1	0	4	-1	-1
81----	Other services (except public administration)	0	0	-1	2	0	-1	1	0	-1	0		1
99----	Unclassified establishments	-1			-1		-1				-2		-1

Table F.17 – Change In The Number Of Establishments Of Non-employers: 1997-2000

NAICS code	NONEMPLOYER STATISTICS, 1997 TO 2000	Net Change in the Number of establishments
00	All non-employer sectors	204
11	Forestry, fishing & hunting, and agricultural support services	8
115	Support activities for agriculture and forestry	6
1152	Support activities for animal production	5
23	Construction	57
2332	Residential building construction	20
235	Special trade contractors	35
2352	Painting and wall covering contractors	6
2353	Electrical contractors	2
2354	Masonry, drywall, insulation, and tile contractors	1
2355	Carpentry and floor contractors	4
2359	Other special trade contractors	24
31-33	Manufacturing	1
42	Wholesale trade	4
421	Wholesale trade, durable goods	(1)
422	Wholesale trade, non-durable goods	5
44-45	Retail trade	7
441	Motor vehicle and parts dealers	4
445	Food and beverage stores	(1)
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores	(14)
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	(5)
4533	Used merchandise stores	0
4539	Other miscellaneous store retailers	(2)
454	Non-store retailers	3
4543	Direct selling establishments	5
48-49	Transportation and warehousing	15
4841	General freight trucking	5
48411	General freight trucking, local	8
48412	General freight trucking, long-distance	(3)
51	Information	0
52	Finance and insurance	15
524	Insurance carriers and related activities	12
5242	Agencies, brokerages, and other insurance related activities	12
53	Real estate and rental and leasing	37
5311	Lessors of real estate	26
5313	Activities related to real estate	10
54	Professional, scientific, and technical services	(6)
5416	Management, scientific, and technical consulting services	(10)
5419	Other professional, scientific, and technical services	(14)
54199	All other professional, scientific, and technical services	(15)
56	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	(2)
5617	Services to buildings and dwellings	(12)
56172	Janitorial services	(10)
56173	Landscaping services	(4)
61	Educational services	3

Table F.17 (cont.) – Change In The Number Of Establishments Of Non-employers: 1997-2000

NAICS code	NON-EMPLOYER STATISTICS, 1997 TO 2000	Net Change in the Number of establishments
62	Health care and social assistance	38
621	Ambulatory health care services	9
6244	Child day care services	25
71	Arts, entertainment, and recreation	22
711	Performing arts, spectator sports, and related industries	21
713	Amusement, gambling, and recreation industries	1
72	Accommodation and foodservices	1
721	Accommodation	0
722	Foodservices and drinking places	1
81	Other services (except public administration)	6
811	Repair and maintenance	(9)
8111	Automotive repair and maintenance	(6)
81111	Automotive mechanical and electrical repair and maintenance	(5)
8113	Commercial & industrial machinery & equipment (exc. automotive & electronic) repair & maintenance	0
81149	Other personal and household goods repair and maintenance	0
8121	Personal care services	8
812112	Beauty shops	3
8129	Other personal services	(3)

U.S. Bureau of the Census, Non-employer Statistics, 1997 and 2000. Table prepared by the SWWRPC.

Table F.18 – List Of Major Employers With 20+ Employees In Iowa County And Blanchardville

Name	Type of Enterprise	Community	SIC	Employ.
Land's End Inc	Direct Merchant Retail	Dodgeville	5651	1000+
House on the Rock/The Springs	Eating and Drinking Place	Spring Green	5810	100-249
Dodgeville School District	Educational Services	Dodgeville	8211	100-249
Iowa-Grant School District	Educational Services	Livingston	8211	100-249
Mineral Point Unified Schools	Educational Services	Mineral Point	8211	100-249
House on the Rock	Entertainment	Spring Green	8412	100-249
Wal Mart	General Merchandise Store	Dodgeville	5311	100-249
City of Dodgeville	General purpose government	Dodgeville	9131	100-249
Fleetguard/Nelson Industries, Inc.	Manufacturer	Mineral Point	3599	100-249
Walnut Hollow	Manufacturer	Dodgeville	2499	100-249
Bloomfield Manor	Nursing Home	Dodgeville	8361	100-249
Dodgeville 66	Retail	Dodgeville	5541	100-249
Electri-tec Electrical Construction	Construction	Arena	1731	50-99
Morton Buildings	Construction	Dodgeville	1540	50-99
Pizza Hut	Eating and Drinking Place	Dodgeville	5810	50-99
Barneveld Public Schools	Educational Services	Barneveld	8211	50-99
Dodgeville Elementary School	Educational Services	Dodgeville	8211	50-99
Iowa Grant Elementary/Middle School	Educational Services	Livingston	8211	50-99
Iowa Grant High School	Educational Services	Livingston	8211	50-99
Mineral Point Elementary School	Educational Services	Mineral Point	8211	50-99
Iowa County	General purpose government	Dodgeville	9131	50-99
Iowa Co Highway Dept	Government Services	Dodgeville	1611	50-99
Monona Wire Corporation	Manufacturer	Livingston	3643	50-99
Memorial Hospital of Iowa County	Medical Care Facility	Dodgeville	8062	50-99
Mineral Point Care Center	Nursing Home	Mineral Point	8051	50-99

Table F.18 (cont.) – List Of Major Employers With 20+ Employees In Iowa County And Blanchardville

Name	Type of Enterprise	Community	SIC	Employ.
Dick's Supermarket	Retail	Dodgeville	5411	50-99
SW Wisconsin Community Action Program Inc	Social Service Agency	Dodgeville	8399	50-99
United Parcel Service	Transportation	Dodgeville	4513	50-99
Hartung Brothers	Agricultural	Arena	0115	20-49
Ahlgimm Explosives Co	Construction	Mineral Point	1629	20-49
Burnham Lumber	Construction	Rewey	1542	20-49
G A Watson	Construction	Dodgeville	1422	20-49
McCon Building	Construction	Highland	1542	20-49
P A McGuire Construction	Construction	Highland	1711	20-49
Courthouse Inn & Courthouse Lounge	Eating and Drinking Place	Dodgeville	5810	20-49
Cousins	Eating and Drinking Place	Dodgeville	5810	20-49
Culver's	Eating and Drinking Place	Dodgeville	5810	20-49
Gordon's Cafe & Coffee	Eating and Drinking Place	Dodgeville	5810	20-49
Hardees	Eating and Drinking Place	Dodgeville	5810	20-49
Hi Point Steak House	Eating and Drinking Place	Ridgeway	5810	20-49
McDonalds	Eating and Drinking Place	Dodgeville	5810	20-49
Nadler's A & W Drive In	Eating and Drinking Place	Dodgeville	5810	20-49
Thym's Supper Club	Eating and Drinking Place	Dodgeville	5810	20-49
Dodgeville High School	Educational Services	Dodgeville	8211	20-49
Dodgeville Middle School	Educational Services	Dodgeville	8211	20-49
Highland High School	Educational Services	Highland	8211	20-49
Mineral Point High School	Educational Services	Mineral Point	8211	20-49
Pecatonica Area Elementary School	Educational Services	Hollandale	8211	20-49
Pecatonica Area High School	Educational Services	Blanchardville	8211	20-49
Ridgeway Schools	Educational Services	Ridgeway	8211	20-49
Dodge Theater	Entertainment	Dodgeville	7832	20-49
Pendarvis & First Capitol	Entertainment	Mineral Point	8412	20-49
Farmers Savings Bank	Financial Services	Mineral Point	6022	20-49
Norwest Bank Wisconsin	Financial Services	Dodgeville	6022	20-49
City of Mineral Point	General purpose government	Mineral Point	9131	20-49
Dept of Natural Resource	Government Services	Dodgeville	9512	20-49
Iowa Co Sheriffs Dept	Government Services	Dodgeville	9221	20-49
Don Q Inn	Lodging	Dodgeville	7011	20-49
New Concord Inn	Lodging	Dodgeville	7011	20-49
The House on the Rock Inn	Lodging	Spring Green	7011	20-49
Silicon Sensors	Manufacturer	Dodgeville	3674	20-49
Cornerstone Foundation	Nursing Home	Dodgeville	8361	20-49
Housing Facilities of Wisconsin	Nursing Home	Mineral Point	8361	20-49
Mineral Point Medical Center	Nursing Home	Mineral Point	8011	20-49
Dodgeville IGA	Retail	Dodgeville	5411	20-49
Farm & Fleet	Retail	Dodgeville	5251	20-49
Fillback Ford	Retail	Highland	5511	20-49
Hallada Motors	Retail	Dodgeville	5511	20-49
Iowa County Chrysler Sales	Retail	Barneveld	5511	20-49
Point IGA	Retail	Mineral Point	5411	20-49
Hodan Center	Sheltered Workshop	Mineral Point	8331	20-49
Iowa Co Social Services	Social Service Agency	Dodgeville	8322	20-49
SUN Program Office	Social Service Agency	Dodgeville	8322	20-49

Table F.18 (cont.) – List Of Major Employers With 20+ Employees In Iowa County And Blanchardville

Name	Type of Enterprise	Community	SIC	Employ.
SWCAP Housing Energy Program	Social Service Agency	Dodgeville	8399	20-49
Anderson Bus Lines	Transportation	Dodgeville	4151	20-49
Q L F Express	Transportation	Dodgeville	4213	20-49
US Postal Service	Transportation	Dodgeville	4311	20-49
Zimmerman Transfer	Transportation	Dodgeville	4212	20-49
Rural Route 1	Trelay Inc	Livingston	5191	20-49
Quality Liquid Feeds (QLF)	Wholesale	Dodgeville	5191	20-49
Quantum Devices	Wholesale	Barneveld	5065	20-49
Ritchie Motors Inc	Wholesale	Barneveld	5083	20-49
Ritchie Motors Inc	Wholesale	Cobb	5083	20-49

CONCLUSION

The existence of a proactive economic development effort can help to keep tabs of county trends and allow for friendly intervention with a business when it is appropriate to do so, perhaps reducing the number of businesses that go out of business, helping others to expand, and attracting new ones based on a targeted industry strategy. This effort requires full time staffing. Furthermore, it cannot be assumed that an existing organization within the county, the region, or the state has the resources to meet this need. This is very much a “grow-your-own” approach to economic development. Other organizations, including the University Cooperative Extension, the regional planning commission, chambers of commerce, educational institutions, and others, can play strong supporting rolls to help the local effort, but these organizations have missions all their own which do not encompass the responsibilities of a county or local economic development group. Ideally, a county group will work closely with local development corporations and committees, as well as with regional, state, and federal resources to achieve the county goals. This model is popular in Wisconsin and throughout the United States and has been an effective approach for local communities to work together.

Alternatively, the creation of a multi-county corporation (5-6 counties) with multiple staffing (at least three full time staff members) might serve the same purpose. A third alternative would be for county-based organizations to jointly “staff” a multi-county organization for the purposes of joint efforts (for example, joint marketing, trade shows, call trips, etc.) without removing any of the autonomy of the county organizations. This latter model could only work effectively if all counties within an area worked with each other, rather than just some of them. The purpose would be to achieve economies of scale by working together and enhancing the visibility of the area. Business prospects, other than those that are home-based, almost never look at an individual community first, nor do they usually look at particular counties for a new location. They almost always look at regions (multi-state or multi-county) for their initial screening. Communities working together, particularly small communities, is almost the only way of assembling the resources needed to compete with the small metropolitan areas of the Midwest (which are the real competition, not other communities within the county). Because labor-sheds are relatively large (30 or so miles in radius), new businesses in one community will provide considerable benefit to neighboring communities.

FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES, AND FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO BUSINESS

There is a wide range of potential sources of assistance in financing a business locating or expanding in Iowa County. Listed below are some key potential opportunities for increasing the capacity of public entities to more fully participate in business expansions, and to affect business location decisions through use of new loan and technical assistance programs.

Local level: The Iowa County Board of Supervisors offers a low interest revolving loan fund loan that can be accessed by contacting the Iowa County University of Wisconsin Extension office, Paul Ohlrogge, Community Development Resource Educator, at 608-935-0391. There is a loan portfolio of 13 loans at the end of 2003. The fund had total assets of about \$592,000. Monthly cash flow is approximately \$5,000 per month. At the local level, in addition to conventional sources through banks and credit unions, there are a number of community revolving loan funds that provide opportunity for direct participation in development projects, including start-ups that are evaluated as to economic soundness. These loan sources are capitalized through the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program administered by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce. An initial project creating a significant number of good paying jobs in the manufacturing sector is typically required in order to obtain a commitment from the Wisconsin Department of Commerce to entertain a funding request by a local unit of government. Additional funds could potentially be requested for the right kind of project, when local funds are not adequate to meet the need.

Regional level: At the regional level, the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission operates the five-county Southwestern Wisconsin Business Development Fund, a regional revolving loan fund funded initially by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. Total capitalization of this fund is more than \$340,000 and there is monthly cash flow. The fund targets projects providing significant economic benefits to the area, or where there is a specific need identified in the community. Also targeted are start-up companies that have business plans and have, if needed, sought business support services through the Small Business Development Center, or the owners have taken part in an entrepreneurial training program, or the business has become a tenant of a small business incubator, such as the one at Platteville. The fund is prohibited from assisting in projects where there is access to conventional loans that have terms and conditions that allow the project to proceed. Contact Ed Bible, economic development planner, Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, 608-342-1056.

The Platteville Business Incubator, Inc. that should be considered a regional facility, can provide direct assistance to tenants in the form of small loans for a variety of purposes, and can provide technical assistance grants to procure needed services for the business in addition to below-market rate lease rates. The facility has \$75,000 available for these purposes. Currently, \$40,000 is available for loans and \$35,000 for T/A, but there is some flexibility. Contact Beth Bickel, executive director, Platteville Business Incubator, Inc., at 608-348-3050.

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC), through Ayla Annac, Small Business Counselor, can provide business counseling free of charge to prospective businesses. Office hours are held throughout the region on certain days. This assistance can be provided by contacting in Iowa County, Paul Ohlrogge, community resource development educator, at the Iowa County UW- Extension offices at 608-935-0391 or Ayla Annac, small business counselor at the SBDC offices at 608-342-1038. Tim Bay, area business education agent is available to provide technical assistance to certain types of businesses on a contractual basis. He can be contacted at 608-342-1090.

The Workforce Development Board of Southwest Wisconsin and Rock County can potentially assist with employment training through the Workforce Investment Act with on-the-job Training (OJT) which can pay for up to 50% of training costs for six to eight weeks. Alternatively, an Incumbent Worker Training Grant may be able to assist with the cost of upgrading employee skills. The eligibility criteria for these two programs differ. Many potential workers may be dislocated from recent lay-offs and special emphasis is placed on helping these individuals, as well as others who qualify. Contact the Job Center office at Dodgeville at 608-935-3116, or the Iowa County Job Center office at 608-935-3116.

Wisconsin's Technical College system is one of the best in the nation and available to assist with customized labor training needs. In southwest Wisconsin, the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College at Fennimore can help with training in a wide variety of disciplines upon request. Contact Lisa Whitish in Fennimore at 1-800-362-3322.

State level: At the state level, the Wisconsin Department of Commerce has a broad range of financial assistance programs to help businesses undertake economic development. It should be noted that due to a serious budget deficit, major changes can occur in the future with respect to the programs listed below. Commerce maintains a network of Area Development Managers (ADM) to offer customized services to each region of Wisconsin. Below are selected programs that may be applied to assisting incubator tenants and other businesses. Call Bill Winter at 608-647-4613 at his office in Richland Center.

- The Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Program offers a variety of ways in which communities can undertake planning or provide assistance to businesses. Assistance can include planning funds to undertake an economic development strategy, plan for a business incubator, or provide partial funding to improve or construct an incubator facility.
- The Early Planning Grant (EPG) helps individual entrepreneurs and small businesses throughout Wisconsin obtain the professional services necessary to evaluate proposed start up or expansion feasibility.
- The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-Economic Development Program provides community grants for business start-up loans, retention, and expansion projects based on the number of jobs created or retained. Refer to programs listed above under "local level". This is a federal pass-through program.
- The Community Development Zone program provides job tax credits for creating new full time jobs for Wisconsin residents and environmental remediation credits for undertaking certain activities that benefit the environment.
- The Agricultural Development zone program provides tax benefits for persons within the agricultural and food processing cluster, which is broadly defined. Job credits, an investment credit for the purchase of depreciable, tangible, personal property such as building improvements and new machinery and equipment, as well as environmental remediation credits are possible.
- The Economic Impact Early Planning Grant (EI-EPG) Program offers matching grants that can cover up seventy-five percent of project costs--up to \$3,000--to help entrepreneurs and small businesses obtain professional services to develop a comprehensive business plan. A business plan is necessary to receive funding for the other gaming programs as well as to attract private financing. A Special Opportunity Grant provides up to \$15,000 for projects that will have a statewide impact.
- The Economic Diversification Loan (EDL) program provides low interest loans to existing businesses interested in establishing or expanding operations in Wisconsin. Applicants must provide a comprehensive business plan describing the proposed project. Applicant can receive up to seventy-five percent of eligible costs. The actual award is based upon the project's viability, number of jobs created or retained, and the extent to which the project will help diversify the local economy.
- The Rural Economic Development (RML) Micro-loan program provides working capital or fixed asset financing for businesses located in rural communities.
- The Technology Development Fund (TDF) program helps Wisconsin businesses research and develop technological innovations having potential to provide significant economic benefit to the state.
- The Technology Development Loan (TDL) program helps Wisconsin businesses develop technological innovations having the potential to provide significant economic benefit to the state. This program is designed to help businesses commercialize new technology.
- The Business Development Initiative (BDI) Micro Loan program is designed to provide financial assistance for the start-up or expansion of businesses involving persons with disabilities.
- The Business Employees' Skills Training (BEST) Program was established by the Wisconsin Legislature to help small businesses in industries facing severe labor shortages upgrade their workforce skills. Under the BEST program, Commerce can provide applicants with a tuition reimbursement grant to help cover a portion of the costs associated with training employees.

- Under the Entrepreneurial Training Grant (ETG) program, Commerce can provide applicants with a grant to help cover a portion of the cost of attending Small Business Development Center's (SBDC) new Entrepreneurial Training Course.
- The Customized Labor Training Fund provides training grants to businesses implementing new technology or production processes. The program can provide up to fifty percent of the cost of customized training.
- Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRB's) can to be issued in the name of the municipality for up to the full cost of a proposed project (\$10 million maximum). Bonds are not a general obligation of the jurisdiction. Interest earned is exempt from federal income tax. Recent issues carried variable interest rates of 1.3 to 1.4 percent, with an approximate 1.2 percent letter of credit fee. Fixed rates are estimated at 4.0 to 5.0 percent. Terms are negotiable and can be structured to meet the needs of the business. Requirements for rehabilitation (fifteen percent of acquisition costs financed with proceeds) apply if bond proceeds are used for acquisition of real estate. The process can take from two to six months, depending on the nature of project, ease of finding a purchaser of the bonds, etc.

The Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority has programs that can assist in financing new and expanding businesses. Contact David Shepard at 608-241-0169 or 1-800-334-6873 ext.1728.

- The Linked Deposit Loan (LiDL) offers women and minority owned and operated businesses a two-year interest rate subsidy on the portion of a new bank loan of \$10,000 to \$99,000 that covers land, building, and equipment.
- The Small Business Guarantee can be used for expenses of land, buildings, equipment, and inventory associated with the expansion or acquisition of a small business (Fifty or less full-time employees). The guarantee is limited to eighty percent or \$200,000. This program can finance a mixed-use project if the business occupies at least half of the building. This program can also be used to start a day care business including cooperative ownership or nonprofit status.

Federal level: At the federal level, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) provides loan guarantees that are used in conjunction with bank financing to improve loan terms. Contact your local banker for details, or access the SBA web site by doing a search.

- The SBA can provide information on authorized micro-lenders that make loans of \$25,000 or less, small business investment companies and certified development corporations that make fixed-rate, long-term loans for the acquisition of business assets.
- The SBA offers simplified application loan guarantee programs called SBA Low Doc and SBA Express to small businesses. Loans under these programs must be \$150,000 or less. Working through their local banks, borrowers also can obtain SBA guarantees on their larger loans. The maximum loan guarantee for one business or individual is \$750,000. Proceeds can be used to purchase machinery and equipment, real property, inventory, and to purchase an existing business.
- The Wisconsin Business Development Finance Corporation operates a SBA Certified Development Company 504 Loan Program. The SBA 504 Loan Program is a way to match long-term, fixed rate financing for long term assets. Through the 504 loan program they can help fund the purchase of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, building construction and all associated soft costs, i.e. interim interest during construction, attorney, accountant, architect, and appraisal fees, title insurance, etc. They can also help minimize the down payment, allowing you or your customer to conserve vital working capital to support future sales growth. For an existing business as little as 10% down may be sufficient. Equity in existing land and buildings may also be sufficient to qualify. Construction financing is provided through your bank, with the WBDFC providing long term financing beginning with the completion of the project for a pre-approved portion of the project up to \$1,000,000 or 40%.

Additional capital may be able to be accessed through programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, one of the agencies under "Rural Development", the administrative arm for various programs. Contact Jim Kirchoff, at 715-345-7615 at the Wisconsin Field office in Stevens Point. Again, a web browser search will provide you with links to these programs on the Internet. The programs include:

- The Business and Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loan Program helps create jobs and stimulates rural economies by providing financial backing for rural businesses. This program provides guarantees up to 90 percent of a loan made by a commercial lender. Loan proceeds may be used for working capital, machinery and equipment, buildings and real estate, and certain types of debt refinancing. B&I loan guarantees can be extended to loans made by recognized commercial lenders or other authorized lenders in rural areas. Assistance under the B&I Guaranteed Loan Program is available to virtually any legally organized entity, including a cooperative, corporation, partnership, trust or other profit or nonprofit entity, Indian tribe or Federally recognized tribal group, municipality, county, or other political subdivision of a State. The maximum aggregate B&I Guaranteed Loan(s) amount that can be offered to any one borrower under this program is \$25 million.
- Rural Economic Development Loans provides zero-interest loans to electric and telephone utilities financed by the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, to promote sustainable rural economic development and job creation projects. The RUS utility is required to re-lend, at zero-percent interest, the loan proceeds to an eligible "third-party recipient" for the purpose of financing job creation projects and sustainable economic development within rural areas. Priority is given to financing third-party recipient projects that are physically located in rural areas having a population of less than 2,500 people. The RUS utility receiving the zero-interest loan is responsible for repaying the loan to RUS in the event of delinquency or default by the third-party recipient. Third-party recipients may be private or public organizations having corporate and legal authority to incur debt.
- The Rural Business Enterprise Grants (RBEG) Program provides assistance to public bodies, private nonprofit corporations, and Federally-recognized Indian Tribal groups to finance and facilitate development of small and emerging private business enterprises located in areas outside the boundary of a city or unincorporated areas of 50,000 or more and its immediately adjacent urbanized or urbanizing area. The public bodies, private nonprofit corporations and federally recognized Indian tribes receive the grant to assist a business. Grant funds do not go directly to the business. Eligibility is limited to public bodies, private nonprofit corporations, and Federally-recognized Indian Tribal groups. Public bodies include incorporated cities and villages, towns, counties, States, authorities, districts, Indian Tribes on Federal and State reservations, and other Federally-recognized Indian Tribal groups in rural areas. Funds are used for the financing or development of small and emerging business. Eligible uses are: Technical Assistance (providing assistance for marketing studies, feasibility studies, business plans, training etc.) to small and emerging businesses; purchasing machinery and equipment to lease to a small and emerging business; creating a revolving loan fund (providing partial funding as a loan to a small and emerging business for the purchase of equipment, working capital, or real estate); or construct a building for a business incubator for small and emerging businesses.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Many cities, townships, villages, and counties begin cooperative arrangements to lower costs and promote efficiency. Most arrangements involve only two governmental units, but there are also agreements among multiple units. Intergovernmental cooperation may range from formal joint power agreements to unwritten understandings. Two cities may have an unwritten agreement about sharing road repair equipment, or a cluster of cities and townships may have a written agreement concerning snow removal or economic development. The opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation are endless.

This section takes a closer look at intergovernmental cooperation including advantages and disadvantages. It examines what the Town of Ridgeway is doing today and what they may consider in the future.

Intergovernmental cooperation is an effective way for local governments to respond to changing and diverse needs by working together with their neighbors, while maintaining their own identity. If an agreement can be reached among two or more units of government, services can often be provided with substantial cost savings. Cooperation can also eliminate unnecessary duplication of services or purchasing of equipment.



Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(g)

(g) Intergovernmental cooperation element.

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for joint planning and decision making with other jurisdictions, including school districts and adjacent local governmental units, for siting and building public facilities and sharing public services. The element shall analyze the relationship of the local governmental unit to school districts and adjacent local governmental units, and to the region, the state and other governmental units. The element shall incorporate any plans or agreements to which the local governmental unit is a party under [s. 66.0301](#), [66.0307](#) or [66.0309](#). The element shall identify existing or potential conflicts between the local governmental unit and other governmental units that are specified in this paragraph and describe processes to resolve such conflicts.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION POLICIES

The following are the intergovernmental cooperation policies for the Town of Ridgeway.

➤ **Maintain established intergovernmental relationships.**

The Town of Ridgeway does share some services with other jurisdictions and this should be continued as long as they are beneficial.

➤ **Explore new opportunities to cooperate with other local units of government.**

As costs continue to rise for providing many facilities and services, the exploration of additional ways to cooperate may prove to be beneficial in order to contain costs.

➤ **Establish written intergovernmental cooperation agreements.**

Often time, intergovernmental cooperation agreements are established based on verbal agreements. Changes in leadership can cause problems with agreements if the specifics have not been identified in writing. It may prove to be beneficial to have all intergovernmental agreements in writing to avoid any disputes or misunderstandings.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS

A good working relationship between neighbors is important. Good intergovernmental communication and cooperation can benefit everyone. A good relationship with inter-jurisdictional county, regional, and state entities can provide economical, environmental, and political advantages for a jurisdiction. Best of all, a positive intergovernmental relationship fosters and supports a sense of community and good fellowship. Table G.1 shows Ridgeway’s rating of its intergovernmental relationships with various governmental units.

Table G.1: Town Of Ridgeway Intergovernmental Relationship Ratings

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Village of Ridgeway, Town of Brigham	X				
Wisconsin DNR					
Wisconsin DOT	X				
Wisconsin DOC					
UW Extension	X				
Iowa County (general)					
Iowa County (specific) – Office of Planning and Zoning – County Treasurer	X				
Local School District (general) – The Town of Ridgeway has spent time discussing future plans of their school districts (Barneveld, Dodgeville and River Valley), and have tried to accommodate the projected outcome of these meetings into their planning efforts.	X				

EXISTING AREAS OF COOPERATION

- **Fire Protection Services** – Fire protection service agreements exist between the Town and the Village of Ridgeway.
- **Ambulance Services** – The City of Dodgeville and the Village of Barneveld share ambulance services with Ridgeway.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFLICTS

No conflicts were identified.

OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONCERNS

One intergovernmental concern identified by the Town of Ridgeway pertains to the issue of cooperation with the Village of Ridgeway on the location of an industrial park. However, the Plan Commission noted that it is their practice to work as much as possible with all agencies and municipalities to best serve the citizens of the Town of Ridgeway.

POSSIBLE FUTURE COOPERATION EFFORTS

As the list above indicates, the Town of Ridgeway is already cooperating with other jurisdictions for services and facilities. The list below identifies possible areas of cooperation in the future.

- **Road Maintenance** – The possibility exists of sharing the cost and responsibility of grading and mowing Town roads with neighboring towns.

COMMUNICATION WITH NEIGHBORS

The Town of Ridgeway communicates with its neighbors by having two Town Board members on the Fire Board for the Fire Department. Also, the Town Board meets with the Village Board when there is business that pertains to both. All Town meetings are posted in the Village of Ridgeway and Town Board members attend County meetings.

FORMAL AGREEMENTS WITH NEIGHBORING JURISDICTIONS

The Town of Ridgeway has formal agreements with

- Village of Ridgeway – Fire Department operation
- Iowa County – Planning and Zoning services
- Barneveld Rescue – Agreement to provide Ambulance services to 60% of the Town
- City of Dodgeville – Agreement to provide Ambulance services to 40% of the Town

ADVANTAGES OF LOCAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Intergovernmental cooperation has many advantages associated with it including the following:

Efficiency and reduction of costs: Cooperating on the provision of services can potentially mean lower costs per unit or person. Although these are by no means the only reasons, efficiency and reduced costs are the most common reasons governments seek to cooperate.

Limited government restructuring: Cooperating with neighboring governments often avoids the time-consuming, costly, and politically sensitive issues of government restructuring. For example, if a city and township can cooperate, the township may avoid annexation of its land and the city may avoid incorporation efforts on the part of the township, which may hinder the city's development. Cooperation also helps avoid the creation of special districts that take power and resources away from existing governments.



Coordination and planning: Through cooperation, governments can develop policies for the area and work on common problems. Such coordination helps communities minimize conflicts when levels of services and enforcement are different among neighboring communities. For example, shared water, sewage, and waste management policies can help avoid the situation in which one area's environment is contaminated by a neighboring jurisdiction with lax standards or limited services. Cooperation can also lead to joint planning for future services and the resources needed to provide them.

Expanded services: Cooperation may provide a local unit of government with services it would otherwise be without. Cooperation can make those services financially and logistically possible.

DISADVANTAGES OF LOCAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Intergovernmental cooperation also has drawbacks, which may include the following:

Reaching and maintaining an agreement: In general, reaching a consensus in cases in which politics and community sentiments differ can be difficult. For example, all parties may agree that police protection is necessary. However, they may disagree widely on how much protection is needed. An agreement may fall apart if one jurisdiction wants infrequent patrolling and the other wants an active and visible police force.

Unequal partners: If one party to an agreement is more powerful, it may influence the agreement's conditions. With service agreements, the more powerful party, or the party providing the service, may have little to lose if the agreement breaks down, it may already service itself at a reasonable rate. The weaker participants may not have other options and are open to possible exploitation.

Local self-preservation and control: Some jurisdictions may feel their identity and independence will be threatened by intergovernmental cooperation. The pride of residents and officials may be bruised if, after decades of providing their own police or fire protection, they must contract with a neighboring jurisdiction (and possible old rival) for the service. In addition, and possibly more importantly, a jurisdiction may lose some control over what takes place within their boundaries. And although government officials may lose control, they are still held responsible for the delivery of services to their electorates.

STEPS TO BEGINNING SUCCESSFUL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION EFFORTS

As expressed earlier in this section, intergovernmental cooperation should be thoroughly reviewed. Below are some ideas and concerns that should be considered.

- Identify other local governments that may share a common problem or may stand to benefit from cooperation.
- Identify whether the county is cooperating with other jurisdictions on a similar service. What type of arrangement do they have? Are the participating jurisdictions satisfied with the quality and quantity of the service?
- Although cooperation on several services may be desired, analyze each one separately. Initially, it may seem logical to lump services. However, it is best to first understand from a cost and non-cost perspective what cooperation in each service area entails.
- Look at the potential cost savings of each option. This should be done on a per resident or per unit-of-service-provided basis. For example, will the cost of fire protection per person decrease if the jurisdictions cooperate? Or, can the jurisdiction lower per resident costs of providing snow removal if it plows other jurisdictions' streets?
- Consider the costs associated with each form of cooperation. What type of administrative or insurance costs might be necessary with each option?
- How would residents respond to the change in the level of services they receive? And how would taxpayers respond to additional government expenses? Would they reject it?
- Are the residents willing to give up some control over a particular service? This may take considerable polling to determine and will likely vary depending on the type of service in question. For example, it may be all right to share snow removal and street repair equipment, but residents might not be willing to give up their own police department and the security they feel it provides.
- Keep the public and local officials informed throughout the entire process. Present the options and invite public comment. If residents and officials feel they have played a role in the effort, or at least been given the opportunity to provide their input, they will be more likely to support the initiative. Plus, some creative ideas may be generated.

- Patience is important. The more governments involved in the negotiations, the longer it will take to develop an agreement and reach a consensus. In addition, negotiators may have to go back to their city councils, town, or county boards several times for directions or approval.

ADDITIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION IDEAS

The Intergovernmental Cooperation Element Guide published by the Wisconsin Department of Administration provides several ideas for cooperation including the following listed below. These are only ideas to consider. *(Note: the following ideas were taken directly from the Intergovernmental Cooperation Guide.)*

Voluntary Assistance: Your community, or another, could voluntarily agree to provide a service to your neighbors because doing so makes economic sense and improves service levels.

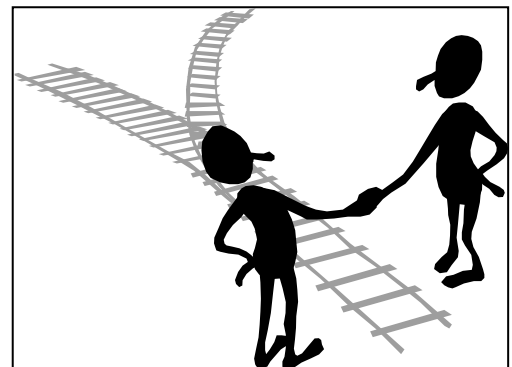
Trading Services: Your community and another could agree to exchange services. You could exchange the use of different pieces of equipment, equipment for labor, or labor for labor.

Renting Equipment: Your community could rent equipment to, or from, neighboring communities and other governmental units. Renting equipment can make sense for both communities – the community renting gets the use of equipment without having to buy it, and the community renting out the equipment earns income from the equipment rather than having it sit idle.

Contracting: Your community could contract with another community or jurisdiction to provide a service. For example, you could contract with an adjacent town or village to provide police and fire protection, or you could contract with the county for a service in addition to that already routinely provided by the county sheriff's department.

Routine County Services: Some services are already paid for through taxes and fees. Examples are police protection services from the county sheriff's department, county zoning, county public health services, and county parks. Your Intergovernmental Cooperation Element could identify areas where improvements are needed and could recommend ways to cooperatively address them.

Sharing Municipal Staff: Your community could share staff with neighboring communities and other jurisdictions – both municipal employees and independently contracted professionals. You could share a building inspector, assessor, planner, engineer, zoning administrator, clerk, etc.



Consolidating Services: Your community could agree with one or more other communities or governmental units to provide a service together.

Joint Use of a Facility: Your community could use a public facility along with other jurisdictions. The facility could be jointly owned or one jurisdiction could rent space from another.

Special Purpose Districts: Special purpose districts are created to provide a particular service, unlike municipalities that provide many different types of services. Like municipalities, special purpose districts are separate and legally independent entities.

Joint Purchase and Ownership of Equipment: Your community could agree with other jurisdictions to jointly purchase and own equipment such as pothole patching machines, mowers, rollers, snowplows, street sweepers, etc.

Cooperative Purchasing: Cooperative purchasing, or procurement, is where jurisdictions purchase supplies and equipment together to gain more favorable prices.

TECHNIQUES AND PROGRAMS FOR MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY COOPERATION

As the Town of Ridgeway continues to grow, it may be necessary to consider some type of boundary agreements. Municipal boundaries can be altered in a number of ways including the following:

- **Annexation**

Annexation is the process of transferring parcels of land from unincorporated areas to adjacent cities or villages. More detailed information on annexation can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Sections 66.0217-66.0223.

- **Detachment**

Detachment is the process by which territory is detached from one jurisdiction and transferred to another. Essentially detachment is the opposite of annexation. More detailed information on detachment can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Sections 66.0227 and 62.075.

- **Incorporation**

Incorporation is the process of creating a new village or city from unincorporated territory. More detailed information on incorporation can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Sections 66.0201-66.0215.

- **Consolidation**

Consolidation is the process by which a town, village, or city joins together with another town, village, or city to form one jurisdiction. More detailed information on incorporation can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Section 66.0229.

- **Intergovernmental Agreements**

Intergovernmental Agreements provide communities with a different type of approach because it is proactive rather than reactive. There are two types of intergovernmental agreements that can be formed including cooperative boundary agreements and stipulations and orders. More detailed information on intergovernmental agreements can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute 66.0307 (Cooperative Boundary Agreements) and 66.0225 (Stipulations and Orders).

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS–MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY REVIEW (DHIR-MBR)

Municipal Boundary Review regulates the transition of unincorporated areas to city or village status through municipal annexation, incorporation, consolidation, or by joint city-village-town activities involving cooperative boundary plans and agreements. Such agreements may change territorial boundaries and may provide for the sharing of municipal services. Staff members are available upon request to meet with local officials and citizens to discuss annexation, incorporation, consolidation and cooperative boundary plans.

MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY REVIEW

**Office of Land Information Services
Municipal Boundary Review
17 S Fairchild, 7th Floor
Madison, WI 53702**

Phone: 608-266-0683

<http://www.doa.state.wi.us/dhir>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this section is to review and analyze land use in the Town of Ridgeway. The land use element is the compilation of all other elements of this plan. Designating land uses and standards for development requires the Town to be able to adequately provide utilities, maintain roads, and support other services. Therefore, the policies and programs of the land use element must be supported by all other elements of the plan. This section will consider both current and future land use in the Town of Ridgeway. At the present time, the dominant developed



land use in the Town is agricultural.

Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(h)

(h) *Land-use element.* A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development and redevelopment of public and private property. The element shall contain a listing of the amount, type, intensity and net density of existing uses of land in the local governmental unit, such as agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial and other public and private uses. The element shall analyze trends in the supply, demand and price of land, opportunities for redevelopment and existing and potential land-use conflicts. The element shall contain projections, based on the background information specified in par. (a), for 20 years, in 5-year increments, of future residential, agricultural, commercial and industrial land uses including the assumptions of net densities or other spatial assumptions upon which the projections are based. The element shall also include a series of maps that shows current land uses and future land uses that indicate productive agricultural soils, natural limitations for building site development, floodplains, wetlands and other environmentally sensitive lands, the boundaries of areas to which services of public utilities and community facilities, as those terms are used in par. (d), will be provided in the future, consistent with the timetable described in par. (d), and the general location of future land uses by net density or other classifications.

LAND USE POLICIES

The following are the land use policies for the Town of Ridgeway.

Residential Development Policies

- ⑩ **The minimum parcel size to build a single family residence as new development will be one acre.**

All building parcels will be required to meet the land division requirement of the Town of Ridgeway. The maximum amount of farmland to be used as a residential building site will be one acre.

- ⑩ **All new driveways and access easements will require the review and approval of the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway.**

Driveways must be constructed and approved prior to obtaining a Building Permit from the Town of Ridgeway.

- ⑩ **All new residential development, including access driveways, will be required to conform to the natural limitations presented by the topography, soils, and vegetation of the land being developed.**

Residential development will be required to conform to the performance standards established in the Comprehensive Plan.

- ⑩ **The Town of Ridgeway will not accept the dedication or maintenance responsibility for any additional roads servicing residential development.**

Refer to the Town's rural residential siting criteria sheet in Section I, Implementation Element, and Map H-1 in this Section for more information.

Commercial Development Policies

- **Commercial development will be permitted in conformance with all the other policies established for development in designated areas. In addition, the Town of Ridgeway will encourage new commercial development to "cluster" or locate in or adjacent to existing commercially zoned areas.**

- **Except for small family businesses, new commercial development will be required to have frontage on either a county or state highway.**

Small family businesses may be permitted in any part of the Town provided that primarily members of the immediate family conduct the business. Signage shall be determined by conditional use restrictions.

- **Heavy industry or businesses requiring large quantities of water and wastewater disposal will be encouraged to locate in areas where municipal sanitary sewer and water systems are available.**

- **Agricultural businesses providing farm services and/or supplies will be permitted to locate within the farming areas of the Town.**

Agricultural business development will be reviewed by the Town as a conditional use that may receive variance from the other policies and performance standards of the Comprehensive Plan.

- ⑩ **Recreation and institutional development proposed in the Town of Ridgeway will be required to meet all of the policies and standards of the Comprehensive Plan.**

As a part of reviewing such development proposals, developers will be required to submit impact statements assessing in detail the proposed projects impact on (a) farms and farmland, (b) natural resources; (c) Town roads, (d) fire and emergency medical services; (e) Town taxes and community setting. The results of such an impact assessment must prove positive benefits to the community before such development will be permitted.

- **Major commercial development shall be required to be located in or adjacent to existing commercially developed areas, shall be compatible with adjacent land uses, and shall not degrade the environment.**
- **Commercial development at any proposed highway interchange shall be controlled to promote safe, compact, convenient highway oriented facilities.**
- **When rezoning is requested, only that portion of land necessary for the projected use shall be rezoned.**

Those lands that exhibit the greatest long-term commitment to agriculture based upon soil type, ownership patterns, investment and other criteria previously identified and mapped shall continue to be recognized.

This policy recognizes that prohibiting all development in agricultural areas is not realistic; certain agriculture related uses such as grain storage facilities or implement sales and service requiring a rural location may be permitted. Those land uses and activities that could conflict with the agriculture use or adversely affect the long-term investment in land and improvements in areas designated for farmland preservation shall be discouraged. This policy provides for a minimum amount of residential development in agricultural areas. It is assumed that rezoning would be required for residential construction. Farmers within the Town are encouraged to follow soil conservation plans and utilize soil conservation practices.

The Town shall cooperate with other agencies and units of government to establish eligibility for farmers who wish to receive tax credits for participation in farmland preservation programs. Agencies and bodies responsible for the preparation of plans for public improvements, such as roadway corridors, power lines, pipelines, or sanitary landfills shall be requested to recognize the agricultural goals of the Town.

Refer to the Town's commercial siting criteria sheet in Section I, Implementation Element, and Map H-1 in this Section for more information.

Resource Protection and Other Recreation Areas

- **All plans for development in or adjacent to important natural features will be carefully reviewed by the Town Plan Commission and Town Board to ensure that existing natural features are preserved whenever possible.**
- **Soil erosion measures will be encouraged in all land uses.**
- **The preservation and maintenance of areas needed to support wildlife shall be encouraged.**

Environmental Protection Policies

⑩ **The Comprehensive Plan is designed to protect the natural environment and special features of the ridge and valley land characteristic of the Town of Ridgeway.**

Development In floodplains or steep slopes will be prohibited. All development will be managed to protect the natural lay of the land, groundwater resources, floodplains, and the aesthetic qualities of this landscape. The Comprehensive Plan is designed to encourage what new development should and should not occur. In most cases, the statements are general in nature, with the intent of providing some flexibility in their application. The policies have been coordinated with the policies of County Zoning and will be used in combination with other policies, ordinances, and regulatory powers as appropriate.

Rural Non-Farm Areas

- **Unsewered residential subdivisions on soils identified as having severe or very severe limitations for septic tank absorption fields and dwelling with basements shall be not be allowed.**
- **Unsewered residential subdivisions in areas where public sewers are available or planned shall be discouraged.**
- **New unsewered residential lots shall be one acre or more in size as per the Residential Development Polices in this Section H.**
- **Strip residential development along roadways shall be discouraged in order to protect the use of the roadway for moving traffic and to ensure a more visually attractive Town.**
- **Land divisions, site design, and construction plans shall be related to the natural topography of the site. Significant natural features existing on a site should be preserved wherever practicable.**
- **Where land development is undertaken, commonly accepted erosion control practices shall be followed in site preparation and construction. The guidelines, standards, and specification to be followed are in the publication "Minimizing Erosion in Urbanizing Areas", USDA Soil Conservation Service.**
- **The Town of Ridgeway will encourage energy conservation techniques in the site planning and construction of new uses within the Town.**

Farm Preservation Policies

- **Residential parcels may be created by certified survey if not on soils classified as prime Class I, and II, and at the discretion of the Town Board, Class III land.**

- **Development will not be permitted on productive farmlands (lands having a history of farming activity including cropland) and /or lands containing soils defined as Class I, II or Class III at the discretion of the Town Board as designated in the Soil Survey Report for Iowa County prepared by the U.S. Coil Conservation Service.**

An exception to this policy will be granted where farmland parcels are too small to be economically used for agricultural purposed or which are inaccessible to modern farm machinery needed to produce and harvest agricultural products.

- ⑩ **New private driveways or roads for non-agricultural purposes shall not be permitted to cross or dissect productive farmlands unless allowed along existing line fences or natural features such as a stream.**

- Any new private development requiring utility extensions (electric power lines, telephone lines, gas distribution lines) to cross productive farmlands in a manner that will disrupt farming activities will not be permitted.
- To avoid possible farm nuisance complaints, developments meeting the above criteria will not be permitted to locate within 1000 feet of an operating farm unit or agricultural facility.

If in the opinion of the Town Board a greater distance is required to avoid possible conflicts from existing or proposed agricultural operations, a greater set back distance may be required.

⑩ **The Town will encourage farmland erosion control practices.**

Ridgeway will work with the Iowa County Soil Conservation Service and will require landowners to follow approved farm conservation plans aimed at reducing soil erosion rates. Farmland that has a history of strip cropping, contouring, sod waterways, or terraces cannot be changed without written permission from the Town Board and the Iowa County Soil Conservation Service.

⑩ **The Town will monitor intensive, confinement, and/or large-scale farming operations to avoid possible land use conflicts and environmental nuisances.**

Any farm operation (farm unit) exceeding 300 animal units as defined below will be subject to review and approval in compliance with the performance stands of the Town of Ridgeway Comprehensive Plan.

⑩ **Those lands that exhibit the greatest long-term commitment to agriculture based upon soil type, ownership patterns, investment or other criteria previously identified and mapped shall continue to be recognized.**

This policy recognizes that prohibiting all development in agricultural areas is not realistic, certain Ag related uses such as grain storage facilities or implement sales and service requiring a rural location may be permitted. Those land uses and activities that could conflict with the agricultural use or adversely affect the long-term investment in the land and improvements in areas designated for farmland preservation shall be discouraged. This policy provides for a minimum amount of residential development in agricultural areas. It is assumed that rezoning would be required for residential construction.

EXISTING LAND USE

The Town of Ridgeway is a predominately agricultural and forestry based community. See Maps E.2 and E.8 in Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resource Element, for existing Ridgeway land use maps.

Table H.1 is a breakdown by percentage for land uses in Ridgeway. As indicated by the Iowa County Tax Assessors Office, the Town is defined as 62.7 percent agricultural land.

Table H.1: Town Of Ridgeway Land Use

(Source: Iowa County Tax Assessor Dept., SWWRPC)	Classification		Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area
	Agricultural		62.7%
	Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)		1.9%
	Commercial		0.03%
	Manufacturing		0.0%
	Production Forest		10.2%
	DNR-MFL Forest		13.1%
	Undeveloped (formerly Swamp/Waste)		6.2%
	Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)		5.6%
Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value	
Residential	153	\$663,400	
Commercial	14	\$51,800	
Manufacturing	--	--	
Agricultural	770	\$8,414,475	
Swamp & Waste	21	\$5,950	
Forest	296	\$858,300	
Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value	
Residential	239	\$3,582,725	

Agricultural

Agriculture is the dominant developed land use in Ridgeway, with 62.7percent occupying the Town’s land area. Agricultural land includes land that produces a crop (including Christmas trees or ginseng), agricultural forest (forested lands contiguous with agricultural land), supports livestock, or is eligible for enrollment in specific federal agricultural programs.

Residential

As indicated by Map H.1 and Table H.1, residential land use accounts for 1.9 percent of the land area within the Town.

Commercial

Commercial refers to any parcel that has a business on it, but does not include industrial properties. This may be a convenience store, car wash, bank, grocery store, tavern, etc., referring to any type of retail or business establishment. The existing land use map does not differentiate between highway businesses, home occupations, or general businesses, but classifies all of the above as commercial. In the Town of Ridgeway, commercial development occupies approximately 0.03 percent of the total land area.

Manufacturing

Manufacturing refers to business and industry that is engaged in processing, manufacturing, packaging, treatment, or fabrication of materials and products. As indicated by Table H.1, there is no manufacturing in Ridgeway.

Forested

This classification is Production Forests and DNR-MFL Forests acreages combined. In Ridgeway it is the second largest classified land use. Map H.1 and Table H.1 show that approximately 23.3 percent of the land area in Ridgeway is forest under these classifications.

Undeveloped

This classification refers to areas that were formerly classified as swamp/waste. It is open land includes bogs marshes, lowlands brush land, and uncultivated land zoned as shoreland and shown to be wetland. Approximately 6.2 percent of the total land in the Town of Ridgeway is classified as undeveloped land.

Other

Remaining land types that do not fall into the above categories, including federal, state, and county lands, school property, and cemeteries, are classified as “other”. Approximately 5.6 percent of land in the Town of Ridgeway is listed under this classification. Refer to Maps E.2 and E.8, Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resource Element, and Table H.1 for more information.

LAND USE TRENDS

Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area
Agricultural	62.7%
Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%
Commercial	0.03%
Manufacturing	0.0%
Production Forest	10.2%
DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%
Undeveloped (formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%
Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%

Table H.2: Town of Ridgeway Land Use Assessment Statistics Iowa County – 1993

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	153	\$663,400
Commercial	14	\$51,800

Table H.3: Town of Ridgeway Land Use Assessment Statistics Iowa County – 2003

Manufacturing			
Agricultural	770	\$8,414,475	
Swamp & Waste	21	\$5,950	
Forest	296	\$858,300	
Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value	
Residential	239	\$3,582,725	
Commercial	21	\$326,700	
Manufacturing	--	--	
Agricultural	716	\$2,027,350	
Swamp & Waste	--	--	
Forest	234	\$5,417,610	
	1 Unit (1999)	1 Unit (2000)	% Change

Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area	
Agricultural	62.7%	
Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%	
Commercial	0.03%	
Manufacturing	0.0%	
Production Forest	10.2%	
DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%	
Undeveloped (formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%	
Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%	

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	153	\$663,400
Commercial	14	\$51,800
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	770	\$8,414,475

(Source: Wisconsin Department of Revenue-2003)

LAND USE TRENDS -RESIDENTIAL

Residential land use occupies 1.9 percent of the Town of Ridgeway. The following table indicates changes in single-family residential units between 1990 and 2000 for the Town of Ridgeway compared to Iowa County.

Table H.4 Town of Ridgeway Single Family Housing Change	Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area	
		1990	2000
	Agricultural	62.7%	
	Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%	
	Commercial	0.03%	
	Manufacturing	0.0%	
	Production Forest	10.2%	
	DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%	
	Undeveloped (Formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%	
	Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%	

(Source: 1990 & 2000 US Census)
 As indicated by Table H.1, the single housing units in Ridgeway increased 10.4 percent between 1990 and 2000, while single housing units in Iowa County increased 17.6 percent.

IDENTIFICATION OF SMART GROWTH AREAS

The Town of Ridgeway Comprehensive Plan identifies smart growth areas in Section H of the plan, areas defined by this process as places that make sense for future development. Map H.1 indicates the smart growth areas for future residential development in the Town.

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	153	\$663,400
Commercial	14	\$51,800
Manufacturing	770	\$8,414,475
Agricultural	21	\$5,950
Swamp & Waste	296	\$858,300
Forest		

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	239	\$3,582,725

Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area			
	1990	2000	2010	2030
Agricultural	62.7%			
Swamp & Waste	6.2%			
Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%			
Commercial	0.03%			
Manufacturing	0.0%			
Production Forest	10.2%	10.4%		
DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%	17.6%		
Undeveloped (Formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%			
Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%			

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value	
		2000	2030
Residential	153	\$663,400	\$90
Commercial	14	\$51,800	232
Manufacturing	770	\$8,414,475	9
Agricultural	21	\$5,950	135
Swamp & Waste	296	\$858,300	
Forest			

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value	
		2000	2030
Residential	153	\$663,400	90
Commercial	14	\$51,800	232
Manufacturing	770	\$8,414,475	9
Agricultural	21	\$5,950	135
Swamp & Waste	296	\$858,300	
Forest			

Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area			
	1990	2000	2010	2030
Agricultural	62.7%			
Swamp & Waste	6.2%			
Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%			
Commercial	0.03%			
Manufacturing	0.0%			
Production Forest	10.2%	10.4%		
DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%	17.6%		
Undeveloped (Formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%			
Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%			

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value	
		2000	2030
Residential	153	\$663,400	90
Commercial	14	\$51,800	232
Manufacturing	770	\$8,414,475	9
Agricultural	21	\$5,950	135
Swamp & Waste	296	\$858,300	
Forest			

DNR Act Number	Activity	Activity Name	Municipality	County	Priority
03-25-264	LUST	MUSCARELLO, PATRICIA	ARENA	Iowa	Unknown
04-25-070	Spills	CTH H AT USH 14	ARENA	Iowa	Unknown
149 03-25-000	LUST	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-0743	Spills	HARTUNG BROS AIRSTRIP	ARENA	Iowa	Low
953 09-25-294	No Action	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE	ARENA	Iowa	Low

The complete database is available from the Department of Natural Resources Website. www.dnr.state.wi.us Activities on these sites including remediation is available for review on the website or by contacting the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The following listings contain the DNR Activity Number, Activity Type, Activity Name, Municipality, County, and a Priority Level. As stated above, additional information is available from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

IOWA COUNTY LIST OF CONTAMINATED SPILLS AND SITES

Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area
Agricultural	62.7%
Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%
Commercial	0.03%
Manufacturing	0.0%
Production Forest	10.2%
DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%
Undeveloped (formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%
Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	153	\$663,400
Commercial	14	\$51,800
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	770	\$8,414,475
Swamp & Waste	21	\$5,950
Forest	296	\$858,300
Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	239	\$3,582,725
Commercial	21	\$326,700
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	716	\$2,027,350
Swamp & Waste	--	--
Forest	234	\$5,417,610

	1-Unit (1990)	1-Unit (2000)	% Change
Town of Ridgeway	193	213	10.4%
Iowa County	6,632	7,796	17.6%

PROJECTED RESIDENTIAL LAND USE	2000	2010	2020	2030
Low Projection	211	218	224	228
Change in Number of Households	--	7	6	6
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	105	90	90
High Projection	211	223	232	241
Change in Number of Households	--	12	9	9
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	180	135	135

DNR Act. Number	Activity Type	Activity Name	Municipality	County	Priority
04-25-050 149	Spills	CTH H AT USH 14	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-043 953	Spills	HARTUNG BROS AIRSTRIP	ARENA	Iowa	
02-25-001 321	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	High
02-25-001 576	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-050 751	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-188 685	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-048 157	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-220 745	LUST	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-194 315	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-266 748	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-047 820	Spills	HIGH ST & WILLOW ST	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-050 778	Spills	HWY 14 2 M W OF ARENA	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-264 307	LUST	MUSCARELLO, PATRICIA	ARENA	Iowa	Unknown
03-25-000	LUST	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE	ARENA	Iowa	Low

Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area
Agricultural	62.7%
Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%
Commercial	0.03%
Manufacturing	0.0%
Production Forest	10.2%
DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%
Undeveloped (formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%
Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	153	\$663,400
Commercial	14	\$51,800
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	770	\$8,414,475
Swamp & Waste	21	\$5,950
Forest	296	\$858,300

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	239	\$3,582,725
Commercial	21	\$326,700
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	716	\$2,027,350
Swamp & Waste	--	--
Forest	234	\$5,417,610

	1-Unit (1990)	1-Unit (2000)	% Change
Town of Ridgeway	193	213	10.4%
Iowa County	6,632	7,796	17.6%

PROJECTED RESIDENTIAL LAND USE	2000	2010	2020	2030
Low Projection	211	218	224	228
Change in Number of Households	--	7	6	6
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	105	90	90
High Projection	211	223	232	241
Change in Number of Households	--	12	9	9
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	180	135	135

DNR Act. Type	Number Activity	Activity Name	Municipality	County	Priority
04-25-050 149	Spills	CTH H AT USH 14	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-043 953	Spills	HARTUNG BROS AIRSTRIP	ARENA	Iowa	
02-25-001 321	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	High
02-25-001 576	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-050 751	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-188 685	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-048 157	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-220 745	LUST	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-194 315	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-266 748	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-047 820	Spills	HIGH ST & WILLOW ST	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-050 778	Spills	HWY 14 2 M W OF ARENA	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-264 307	LUST	MUSCARELLO, PATRICIA	ARENA	Iowa	Unknown
03-25-000 771	LUST	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE	ARENA	Iowa	Low
09-25-294 815	No Action Required	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE PROPERTY	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-049 331	Spills	PINE RD .5 MI S OF HELENA RD	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-002 838	LUST	ROSIES SERVICE	ARENA	Iowa	Unknown
04-25-045 074	Spills	1/3 MI E OF CNTY LINE S OF HWY 133	AVOCA	Iowa	
04-25-037 287	Spills	CTH I & CTH PD	AVOCA	Iowa	
04-25-046	Spills	MORREY CREEK - 100 YDS S OF D ST	AVOCA	Iowa	

Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area
Agricultural	62.7%
Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%
Commercial	0.03%
Manufacturing	0.0%
Production Forest	10.2%
DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%
Undeveloped (formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%
Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	153	\$663,400
Commercial	14	\$51,800
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	770	\$8,414,475
Swamp & Waste	21	\$5,950
Forest	296	\$858,300

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	239	\$3,582,725
Commercial	21	\$326,700
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	716	\$2,027,350
Swamp & Waste	--	--
Forest	234	\$5,417,610

	1-Unit (1990)	1-Unit (2000)	% Change
Town of Ridgeway	193	213	10.4%
Iowa County	6,632	7,796	17.6%

PROJECTED RESIDENTIAL LAND USE	2000	2010	2020	2030
Low Projection	211	218	224	228
Change in Number of Households	--	7	6	6
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	105	90	90
High Projection	211	223	232	241
Change in Number of Households	--	12	9	9
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	180	135	135

DNR Act. Number	Activity Type	Activity Name	Municipality	County	Priority
04-25-050 149	Spills	CTH H AT USH 14	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-043 953	Spills	HARTUNG BROS AIRSTRIP	ARENA	Iowa	
02-25-001 321	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	High
02-25-001 576	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-050 751	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-188 685	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-048 157	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-220 745	LUST	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-194 315	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-266 748	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-047 820	Spills	HIGH ST & WILLOW ST	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-050 778	Spills	HWY 14 2 M W OF ARENA	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-264 307	LUST	MUSCARELLO, PATRICIA	ARENA	Iowa	Unkno wn
03-25-000 771	LUST	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE	ARENA	Iowa	Low
09-25-294 815	No Action Required	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE PROPERTY	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-049 331	Spills	PINE RD .5 MI S OF HELENA RD	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-002 838	LUST	ROSIES SERVICE	ARENA	Iowa	Unkno wn
04-25-045 074	Spills	1/3 MI E OF CNTY LINE S OF HWY 133	AVOCA	Iowa	
04-25-037 287	Spills	CTH I & CTH PD	AVOCA	Iowa	
04-25-046	Spills	MORREY CREEK - 100 YDS S OF D ST	AVOCA	Iowa	

Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area
Agricultural	62.7%
Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%
Commercial	0.03%
Manufacturing	0.0%
Production Forest	10.2%
DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%
Undeveloped (formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%
Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	153	\$663,400
Commercial	14	\$51,800
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	770	\$8,414,475
Swamp & Waste	21	\$5,950
Forest	296	\$858,300

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	239	\$3,582,725
Commercial	21	\$326,700
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	716	\$2,027,350
Swamp & Waste	--	--
Forest	234	\$5,417,610

	1-Unit (1990)	1-Unit (2000)	% Change
Town of Ridgeway	193	213	10.4%
Iowa County	6,632	7,796	17.6%

PROJECTED RESIDENTIAL LAND USE	2000	2010	2020	2030
Low Projection	211	218	224	228
Change in Number of Households	--	7	6	6
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	105	90	90
High Projection	211	223	232	241
Change in Number of Households	--	12	9	9
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	180	135	135

DNR Act. Type	Number Activity	Activity Name	Municipality	County	Priority
04-25-050 149	Spills	CTH H AT USH 14	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-043 953	Spills	HARTUNG BROS AIRSTRIP	ARENA	Iowa	
02-25-001 321	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	High
02-25-001 576	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-050 751	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-188 685	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-048 157	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-220 745	LUST	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-194 315	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-266 748	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-047 820	Spills	HIGH ST & WILLOW ST	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-050 778	Spills	HWY 14 2 M W OF ARENA	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-264 307	LUST	MUSCARELLO, PATRICIA	ARENA	Iowa	Unknown
03-25-000 771	LUST	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE	ARENA	Iowa	Low
09-25-294 815	No Action Required	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE PROPERTY	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-049 331	Spills	PINE RD .5 MI S OF HELENA RD	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-002 838	LUST	ROSIES SERVICE	ARENA	Iowa	Unknown
04-25-045 074	Spills	1/3 MI E OF CNTY LINE S OF HWY 133	AVOCA	Iowa	
04-25-037 287	Spills	CTH I & CTH PD	AVOCA	Iowa	
04-25-046	Spills	MORREY CREEK - 100 YDS S OF D ST	AVOCA	Iowa	

Classification	Town of Ridgeway Percent of Land Area
Agricultural	62.7%
Residential (Single- and Multi-Family)	1.9%
Commercial	0.03%
Manufacturing	0.0%
Production Forest	10.2%
DNR-MFL Forest	13.1%
Undeveloped (formerly Swamp/Waste)	6.2%
Other (Federal, State, County, School, Cemetery)	5.6%

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	153	\$663,400
Commercial	14	\$51,800
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	770	\$8,414,475
Swamp & Waste	21	\$5,950
Forest	296	\$858,300

Real Estate Class	# of Parcels	Land Value
Residential	239	\$3,582,725
Commercial	21	\$326,700
Manufacturing	--	--
Agricultural	716	\$2,027,350
Swamp & Waste	--	--
Forest	234	\$5,417,610

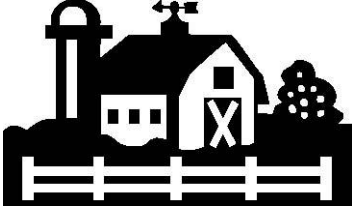
	1-Unit (1990)	1-Unit (2000)	% Change
Town of Ridgeway	193	213	10.4%
Iowa County	6,632	7,796	17.6%

PROJECTED RESIDENTIAL LAND USE	2000	2010	2020	2030
Low Projection	211	218	224	228
Change in Number of Households	--	7	6	6
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	105	90	90
High Projection	211	223	232	241
Change in Number of Households	--	12	9	9
1 Dwelling Units Per 15 Acres	--	180	135	135

DNR Act. Number	Activity Type	Activity Name	Municipality	County	Priority
04-25-050 149	Spills	CTH H AT USH 14	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-043 953	Spills	HARTUNG BROS AIRSTRIP	ARENA	Iowa	
02-25-001 321	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	High
02-25-001 576	ERP	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-050 751	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-188 685	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-048 157	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-220 745	LUST	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	Low
04-25-194 315	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-266 748	Spills	HARTUNG BROS INC	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-047 820	Spills	HIGH ST & WILLOW ST	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-050 778	Spills	HWY 14 2 M W OF ARENA	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-264 307	LUST	MUSCARELLO, PATRICIA	ARENA	Iowa	Unkno wn
03-25-000 771	LUST	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE	ARENA	Iowa	Low
09-25-294 815	No Action Required	PEOPLES BANK OF MAZOMANIE PROPERTY	ARENA	Iowa	
04-25-049 331	Spills	PINE RD .5 MI S OF HELENA RD	ARENA	Iowa	
03-25-002 838	LUST	ROSIES SERVICE	ARENA	Iowa	Unkno wn
04-25-045 074	Spills	1/3 MI E OF CNTY LINE S OF HWY 133	AVOCA	Iowa	
04-25-037 287	Spills	CTH I & CTH PD	AVOCA	Iowa	
04-25-046	Spills	MORREY CREEK - 100 YDS S OF D ST	AVOCA	Iowa	

FUTURE LAND USE

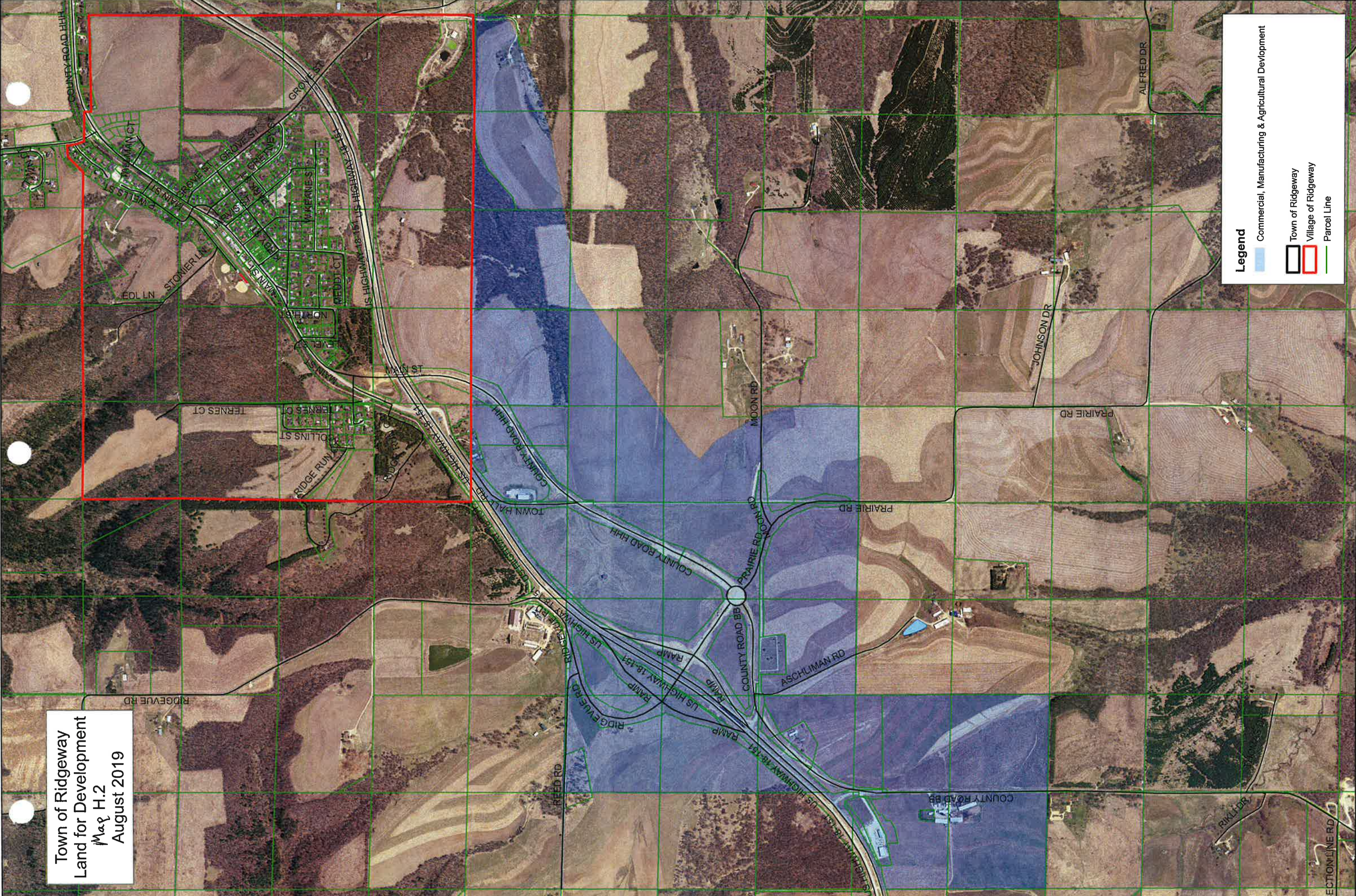
Natural beauty, small-town atmosphere, and recreational opportunities were the top reasons why people choose to live in the Town of Ridgeway. It stands to reason that people in Ridgeway want to keep and improve their farms, maintain their homes and property, protect their investments, and improve their standard of living. However,



agriculture promises to continue to change the future of farming; existing homes and

buildings will need remodeling, repairs, or improvements; new buildings and homes will be constructed. In order to achieve its vision, Ridgeway needs to protect its natural beauty, preserve the small-town atmosphere, and continue to explore and expand recreational opportunities, while still supporting agriculture. This approach will help the Town continue to be a desirable place to live, work, and play.

Town of Ridgeway
 Land for Development
 Map H.2
 August 2019



Legend

- Commercial, Manufacturing & Agricultural Development
- Town of Ridgeway
- Village of Ridgeway
- Parcel Line

Prepared by the Office of Planning & Development
 Maps are prepared to the best of the Office's ability and are not
 intended to be used for legal purposes. The user shall verify the
 accuracy, completeness or suitability for their intended use.
 Planning & Development Office



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this section is to explain how the comprehensive plan will be utilized to guide future growth and development in Ridgeway and is intended to serve as the blueprint for the future. As change is inevitable, the plan may need to be amended to appropriately reflect major changes. Section I will review how each section of the comprehensive plan elements interrelate and how the plan will be monitored and evaluated. The final part of this Section is a discussion on how the plan will be updated at a minimum of once every ten years.

**Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(i)**

(i) Implementation element. 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, 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.

IMPLEMENTATION POLICIES

- **Enforce local ordinances to maintain the character of existing and future land uses within the Town of Ridgeway.**

Local ordinances must be enforced consistently to maintain the character of the town. Again, the keyword is enforcement.

- **Update the Town of Ridgeway comprehensive plan at a minimum of every ten years as required by Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001.**

This plan needs to be updated at least once every ten years. Depending on development or other changes, the plan may need to be updated on a more frequent basis.

- **Amend the local comprehensive plan and ordinances only after careful evaluation of existing conditions and potential impacts.**

Depending on what takes place in Ridgeway in the next 20 years, this comprehensive plan and enforcement ordinance may need to be amended. This should be done with extreme caution.

CONSISTENCY AMONG PLAN ELEMENTS

As required by Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001, all elements included in this plan are consistent with one another and no known conflicts exist. All nine elements included in this plan work to achieve the desired future for the Town of Ridgeway.

PLAN ADOPTION

The first official action required to implement the Town of Ridgeway comprehensive plan is official adoption of the plan by the local Plan Commission. Once the local Plan Commission adopts the plan by resolution, the Town Board then needs to adopt the comprehensive plan by ordinance as required by State Statute 66.1001. After the plan is adopted by ordinance, it then becomes the official tool for future development in the next 20 years. The plan will guide development in a consistent manner.

LOCAL ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS

The intent of the local ordinances and regulations is to control development of land within the town. By carefully applying these local ordinances and regulations, the Town of Ridgeway will be accomplishing policies of the comprehensive plan. Enforcement of such ordinances and regulations serve an important function by ensuring orderly growth and development. The Town of Ridgeway will continue to use the Iowa County Zoning Ordinance as a primary tool of enforcement.

PLAN AMENDMENTS

The Town Board can amend the Town of Ridgeway Comprehensive Plan at any time. Amendments would be any changes to plan maps or text. Amendments may be necessary due to changes in town policies, programs, or services, as well as changes in state or federal laws. An amendment may also be needed due to unique proposals presented to the town. Proposed amendments should be channeled through the local planning commission and then final action should occur at the Town Board.

PLAN UPDATES

As required by Wisconsin State Statute, the comprehensive plan needs to be updated at least once every ten years. An update is different than an amendment, as an update is a major revision of multiple plan sections including maps. The plan was originally written based on variables that are ever changing and future direction might be inaccurately predicted. A plan update should include public involvement, as well as an official public hearing.

RURAL RESIDENTIAL SITING CRITERIA

The criteria in Table I.1 must be met in order to comply with the Town of Ridgeway and Iowa County's comprehensive plans. Items listed in Column A are standard across the county. Items in Column B are specific to the Town of Ridgeway.

Table I.1 Rural Residential Siting Criteria

Complies	Does Not Comply	Column A – Iowa County Criteria	Complies	Does Not Comply	Column B – Town of Ridgeway Criteria
		1. Septic System Requirement (Required space to accommodate a septic system and back-up system – unless connected to a municipal system)			1. Minimum Lot Size (One acre – Development must have adequate space for facilities (e.g. well, septic, field))
		2. Private Well (Required space to accommodate a well – unless connected to a municipal system; adequate sizing (requiring evidence of a DNR well permit); type of water conservation techniques will be used in business)			2. Density Standard (none)
		3. Access/Driveway Approval (Written approval from the respective town stating a driveway access would be permitted to this site)			3. Driveway Standards (See Town of Ridgeway Driveway Ordinance)
		4. Floodplain (Rezone must conform to any state and federal floodplain standard)			4. Compliance with Town Land Use Map
		5. Shoreland & Wetland (Rezone must confirm to any state or local shoreland and wetland standards)			5. Compliance with Town Ordinances
		6. Use Must Comply With District (The proposed uses comply with uses in requested or existing zone district; lot configuration, etc.)			6. Compatibility with Surrounding Land Uses
		7. Compliance With Town Criteria (The rezone must comply with the minimum number of town standards required in Column B)			7. Visual/Aesthetic Standards
					8. Prime Soils (Development must preserve ag land)
					9. Review BRRTS database for applicable DNR activity

COMMERCIAL SITING CRITERIA

Because commercial development can vary significantly from retail sales to heavy industrial, the criteria below are more general in nature. Individual towns may want to consider having more specific requirements for particular types of business. The concept here is similar to the process for rural residential siting criteria. Items listed in Column A are standard across Iowa County; items in Column B are specific to the Town of Ridgeway.

Table I.2: Commercial Siting Criteria

Complies	Does Not Comply	Column A – Iowa County Criteria	Complies	Does Not Comply	Column B – Town of Ridgeway Criteria
		1. Septic System Requirement (Required space to accommodate a septic system and backup system – unless connected to a municipal system)			1. Feasibility of Business - Required
		2. Private Well (Required space to accommodate a well – unless connected to a municipal system; adequate sizing (requiring evidence of a DNR well permit); type of water conservation techniques will be used in business.)			2. Driveway/Access Approval – not to exceed Town standards.
		3. Access / Driveway Approval (Written approval from the respective town stating a driveway access would be permitted to this site)			3. Social Impacts – the town will look at negative and positive impacts.
					-Traffic patterns: look at road maintenance and safety
					- Aesthetics: how does it affect people around it?
					- Sense of Neighborhood: how does it affect people around it?
		4. Floodplain (Rezone must conform to any state and federal floodplain standards)			- Potential Ancillary Development: Will it fit in the future?
					4. Natural Resource Impacts
					- Air Quality Impacts: will it pollute air in future?
					- Water Quality Impacts: will quality or supply be affected?
		5. Shoreland & Wetland (Rezone must conform to any state or local shoreland and wetland standards)			- Erosion Potential: will erosion be controlled during construction?
					- Noise Impacts: will noise be an issue?
					- Odor Impacts: do not allow if smell will affect neighbors.
		6. Use Must Comply With District			5. Compliance with Town Land Use Map
					6. Compliance with Town Ordinances

	(The proposed uses comply with uses in requested or existing zoning district; lot configuration, etc)		(Development must comply with Town or Ridgeway land use ordinances.)
	7. Social impacts (Traffic patterns; compatibility with neighboring land use; ancillary development potential.)		7. Other Criteria The town's focus is on how a proposed development affects the community and neighbors, not as much so for on potential success of the business.
	8. Impact on natural resources (Erosion control plan; air quality; water quality; chemical infiltration of soils; erosion potential; noises; odors)		8. Review BRRTS database for applicable DNR activity
	9. Business Plan (Growth potential, market, financing, phased developments, etc)		9.
	10. Compliance Town Criteria (The rezone must comply with the minimum number of town standards required in Column B)		10.

IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

The Town of Ridgeway Comprehensive Plan Policy Summary Tables (below) list the Town's policies by element and provides spaces for actions, implementation groups, and timeline to implement various aspects of this comprehensive plan.

Table I.3 ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

GOAL: ESTABLISH COMMUNITY STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES			
Policies	Action-Plan	Key Groups of Implementation	Timeframe
Protect and improve the health, safety, and welfare of residents in the Town of Ridgeway.			
Preserve and enhance the quality of life for the residents of the Town of Ridgeway.			
Protect and preserve the small community character of the Town of Ridgeway.			

Table I.4 HOUSING

GOAL: ADEQUATE RANGE OF HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET THE VARIED NEEDS OF EXISTING AND FUTURE RESIDENTS			
Policies	Action-Plan	Key Groups of Implementation	Timeframe
Policies Encourage the provision of an adequate supply of single-family homes, condominiums and townhouses, duplexes, assisted living, and housing for the elderly. Provide choices of owner and renter type-housing units to serve the current and future needs of all residents.			

Promote the preservation and rehabilitation of the existing housing stock in the Town of Ridgeway.			
Preserve and expand the supply of affordable rental and ownership housing for low and moderate-income individuals.			
Enforce the Iowa County Zoning Ordinance to maintain the character of existing and future residential neighborhoods.			
Coordinate planning activities with Iowa County and surrounding jurisdictions to effectively plan for residential growth.			
Discourage residential development in areas where soils, slope, environmental, or other topographical limitations prove to be unsuitable for maintaining ground quality and preventing erosion.			
Continue to identify areas and designate land for future housing developments.			
Review new housing proposals and support those proposals and programs that meet the town's housing needs and are consistent with the policies outlined in the comprehensive plan.			

Table I.5 TRANSPORTATION

GOAL: SAFE AND EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, WHICH ACCOMMODATE THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND GOODS			
Policies	Action-Plan	Key Groups of Implementation	Timeframe
Local Transportation Infrastructure and Issues	• Create a bicycle route connector to Folklore Village and to nearby camping facilities.		
Transit, Accessibility, and Special Needs Users	• Support the development and promotion of paratransit services for local residents.		
Land Use	• Concern about the impact of growth on land use.		
Cost	• Capital Improvement Program • Maintenance & Improvement Funding Source		

Table I.6 UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

GOAL: MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE FACILITIES AND SERVICES, WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVERALL WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY			
Policies	Action-Plan	Key Groups of Implementation	Timeframe
Encourage well testing as a means of protecting drinking water supplies for private, individual well users.			
Educate landowners on the management and maintenance of private septic systems.			

Develop a storm water management strategy to protect ground and drinking water supplies.			
Develop a strategy for siting telecommunication ("cell") towers.			
Ensure that new development bears a fair share of capital improvement costs necessitated by the development.			
Guide new growth to areas that are most efficiently served with utilities.			

Table I.7 AGRICULTURE, NATURAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

GOAL: PROTECT, CONSERVE, AND MAINTAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY			
Policies	Action-Plan	Key Groups of Implementation	Timeframe
Routinely remind residents of the importance of their agricultural, natural, and cultural resources and the need for continued protection of local open spaces to provide recreational opportunities.			
Build partnerships with local clubs and organizations in order to protect important natural areas.			
Encourage and support prairie and savanna restoration.			
Enforce noxious weed control ordinances.			
Support tree preservation and sustainable forestry practices.			
Maintain proper separation distances between urban and rural land uses to avoid conflicts.			
Identify recharge areas for local wells and inventory potential contaminant sources.			
Restrict development from major drainage areas in order to aid in storm water runoff and prevent flooding.			
Promote tourism opportunities and continue to pursue efforts to capitalize on local resources in conjunction with programs like walking tours, the Wisconsin Historical Markers Program, distributing ATV or bike trail maps, maintaining trails, and preserving the natural beauty of the area.			
Utilize County, State, and Federal programs to conserve, maintain, and protect agricultural, natural, and cultural resources.			

Table I.8 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GOAL: PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT PROVIDES FOR A HEALTHY, DIVERSIFIED, AND GROWING ECONOMY			
Policies	Action-Plan	Key Groups of Implementation	Timeframe
The various interested communities, county representatives, and other parties including businesses and business organizations, should meet to discuss the			

creation of a countywide economic development corporation.			
All incorporated jurisdictions, as well as the county, should provide for annual funding of economic development needs, including, but not limited to membership dues in organizations that promote economic development beneficial to the county.			
Each community should create a community fund through the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, especially if there is not an alternative vehicle for encouraging local charitable contributions that go toward overall community betterment.			
Utilize the availability of training programs to enhance local capacity building for purposes of community and economic development.			
Develop necessary information to market the community and the available business sites and available buildings within the community on the Internet.			
Work on tourism potential as tourism is one of the fundamental assets of Iowa County.			
Make historic preservation and tourism a fundamental economic development strategy of community and county efforts.			
Conduct a housing needs assessment in all areas interested in housing development and make housing development a fundamental economic development strategy in areas where this is desired but evaluate proposals by doing a feasibility analysis.			
Become familiar with new Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and the Tourism, Agriculture, Forestry (TAF) laws. This is pertinent for any jurisdiction, even towns, as there may be considerable opportunities for economic development.			

Table I.9 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

GOAL: PROMOTE COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH ADJACENT AND OVERLAPPING JURISDICTIONS			
Policies	Action-Plan	Key Groups of Implementation	Timeframe
Maintain established intergovernmental relationships.			
Explore new opportunities to cooperate with other local units of government.			
Establish written intergovernmental cooperation agreements.			

Table I.10 LAND USE

GOAL: IMPLEMENT THE POLICIES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN			
Residential Development Policies	Action-Plan	Key Groups of Implementation	Timeframe
The minimum parcel size for development will be one acre.			
All new driveways and access easements will require the review and approval of the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway.			
All new residential development, including access driveways, will be required to conform to the natural limitations presented by the topography, soils, and vegetation of the land being developed.			
The Town of Ridgeway will not accept the dedication or maintenance responsibility for any additional roads servicing residential development.			
Commercial, Manufacturing and Agricultural Development Policies			
Commercial and manufacturing development will be permitted in conformance with all the other policies established for development in designated areas. In addition, the Town of Ridgeway will encourage new commercial and manufacturing development to "cluster" or locate in or adjacent to existing commercially zoned areas. New development shall be compatible with adjacent land uses, and shall not degrade the environment.			
Except for small family businesses, new commercial and manufacturing development will be required to have frontage on either a county or state highway or an adequately improved Township road. Commercial and manufacturing development at any proposed highway interchange shall be controlled to promote safe, compact, convenient highway-oriented facilities.			
Manufacturing businesses requiring large quantities of water and wastewater disposal will be encouraged to locate in areas where municipal sanitary sewer and water systems are available.			
Agricultural businesses providing farm services and/or supplies will be permitted to locate within the farming areas of the Town.			
Recreation and institutional development proposed in the Town of Ridgeway will be required to meet all of the policies and standards of the Comprehensive Plan.			
When rezoning is requested, only that portion of land necessary for the projected use shall be rezoned.			
US Highway 18/151 Interchange Area Commercial, Manufacturing and Agricultural Development Policies			
The development should provide needed services, resources or assets to the Town of Ridgeway and			

complement development promoted by the Village of Ridgeway.			
Development that requires connection to public water and/or sewer service will be considered provided the Village of Ridgeway is agreeable to providing access to those services.			
The anticipated traffic type, volume and pattern must be compatible with the existing public roadways so as not to create a significant safety risk or need for road modification or maintenance at the expense of the Town of Ridgeway.			
Development that produces hazardous, volatile or other substances deemed a potential threat to public health and safety, whether by design or as a by-product, are discouraged unless there are credible measures put in place for mitigating the potential impacts.			
Development that creates sights, sounds or odors that may be deemed offensive or a nuisance to existing land uses within the area are discouraged unless there are credible measures put in place for mitigating the potential impacts.			
The Town of Ridgeway may consider investing in infrastructure, such as roads, utilities, water, sewer, etc. if deemed to be of benefit to the public, and may encourage cooperation of the Village of Ridgeway.			
When considering an individual development proposal, the Town of Ridgeway will take into account the consistency with, and impact on, existing development in the area.			
Survey results show that preserving scenic views and rural character is important to Town of Ridgeway residents. Town officials therefore request that new business owners beautify their properties with trees, shrubs, fencing and the like.			
Resource Protection and Other Recreation Area Policies			
All plans for development in or adjacent to important natural features will be carefully reviewed by the Town Plan Commission and Town Board to ensure that existing natural features are preserved whenever possible.			
Soil erosion measures will be encouraged in all land uses.			
The preservation and maintenance of areas needed to support wildlife shall be encouraged.			
Environmental Protection Policies			
The Comprehensive Plan is designed to protect the natural environment and special features of the ridge and valley land characteristic of the Town of Ridgeway.			
Rural Non-Farm Area Policies			
Unsewered residential subdivisions on soils identified as having severe or very severe limitations for septic			

tank absorption fields and dwelling with basements shall be not be allowed.			
Unsewered residential subdivisions in areas where public sewers are available or planned shall be discouraged.			
New unsewered residential lots shall be one acre or more in size.			
Strip residential development along roadways shall be discouraged in order to protect the use of the roadway for moving traffic and to ensure a more visually attractive Town.			
Land divisions, site design, and construction plans shall be related to the natural topography of the site. Significant natural features existing on a site should be preserved wherever practicable.			
Where land development is undertaken, commonly accepted erosion control practices shall be followed in site preparation and construction. The guidelines, standards, and specification to be followed are in the publication "Minimizing Erosion in Urbanizing Areas", USDA Soil Conservation Service.			
The Town of Ridgeway will encourage energy conservation techniques in the site planning and construction of new uses within the Town.			
Farm Preservation Policies			
Residential parcels may be created by certified survey if not on soils classified as prime Class I, and II, and at the discretion of the Town Board, Class III land.			
Development will not be permitted on productive farmlands (lands having a history of farming activity including cropland) and /or lands containing soils defined as Class I, II or Class III at the discretion of the Town Board as designated in the Soil Survey Report for Iowa County prepared by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.			
New private driveways or roads for non-agricultural purposes shall not be permitted to cross or dissect productive farmlands unless allowed along existing line fences or natural features such as a stream.			
Any new private development requiring utility extensions (electric power lines, telephone lines, gas distribution lines) to cross productive farmlands in a manner that will disrupt farming activities will not be permitted.			
To avoid possible farm nuisance complaints, developments meeting the above criteria will not be permitted to locate within 1000 feet of an operating farm unit or agricultural facility.			
The Town will encourage farmland erosion control			

practices.			
The Town will monitor intensive, confinement, and/or large-scale farming operations to avoid possible land use conflicts and environmental nuisances.			
Those lands that exhibit the greatest long-term commitment to agriculture based upon soil type, ownership patterns, investment or other criteria previously identified and mapped shall continue to be recognized.			

Table I.11 IMPLEMENTATION

GOAL: IMPLEMENT THE POLICIES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN			
Policies	Action-Plan	Key Groups of Implementation	Timeframe
Enforce local ordinances to maintain the character of existing and future land uses within the Town of Ridgeway.			
Update the Town of Ridgeway comprehensive plan at a minimum of every ten years as required by Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001.			
Amend the local comprehensive plan and ordinances only after careful evaluation of existing conditions and potential impacts.			

BACKGROUND

In November of 2001, the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC) prepared and submitted a Comprehensive Planning Grant Application on behalf of Iowa County and 22 local jurisdictions. In April of 2002, the Comprehensive Planning Grant from the Office of Land Information Services (OLIS) was awarded. The following jurisdictions were included in the grant application:

TOWNS	VILLAGES	CITIES	COUNTY
Arena	Arena	Dodgeville	Iowa
Clyde	Avoca	Mineral Point	
Dodgeville	Blanchardville		
Eden	Highland		
Highland	Hollandale		
Linden	Linden		
Mifflin	Ridgeway		
Mineral Point			
Moscow			
Pulaski			
Ridgeway			
Waldwick			
Wyoming			

As part of the comprehensive planning program, each jurisdiction is required to formally adopt a public participation plan. Each jurisdiction identified above as well as the County, will be adopting their own public participation plan. The public participation plans will share commonalities, but allows each jurisdiction to utilize specific public participation tools that may be best for their particular jurisdiction.

INTENT/PURPOSE

Pursuant to Sec. 66.1001(4)(a), Wisconsin Statutes

“The governing body of local governmental unit shall adopt written procedures that are designed to foster public participation, including open discussion, communication programs, information services, and public meetings for which advance notice has been provided, in every state of the preparation of a comprehensive plan. The written procedures shall be provide for wide distribution of proposed, alternative or amended elements of a comprehensive plan and shall provide an opportunity for written comments on the plan to be submitted by members of the public to the governing body and for the governing body to respond to such written comments.”

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Public participation efforts will be a combined effort between the local jurisdictions, SWWRPC, and UW-Extension. SWWRPC will be focusing on public participation efforts that serve the entire county as well as the cluster groups that have been established as part of the Iowa County Comprehensive Planning Process. For example, SWWRPC will be coordinating and distributing the county-wide survey, press releases and meeting notices for the cluster groups, holding county wide open houses, cluster group visioning sessions, etc. Local jurisdictions will be responsible for coordinating specific efforts on their individual local level. For example, each local jurisdiction is responsible for generating and posting local plan commission notices, posting cluster meeting notices, posting and conducting of at least one public hearing, etc.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

The table below outlines a number of ways the public can be involved in the Town of Ridgeway’s comprehensive planning process*.

	PUBLIC AWARENESS	PUBLIC EDUCATION <i>(Increasing Level of Involvement)</i>	PUBLIC INPUT	PUBLIC INTERACTION	PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP
PURPOSE	To increase the overall awareness of the comprehensive planning process.	To provide the public with information to assist in understanding the problems, alternatives, and solutions.	To obtain feedback on issues, alternatives, and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public to ensure that concerns are consistently understood and considered.	To place decision making in the hands of the public.
METHODS OF INVOLVEMENT	<p>1. The Town of Ridgeway has been very active in land use regulation and control since 1992 and has had an extensive Land Use Ordinance. As a result, the citizens of the Town of Ridgeway are aware of the land use regulations within the Town.</p> <p>2. Meeting Notices Newsletters and meeting notices are posted encouraging residents to attend meetings of the Land Use Commission.</p>	<p>1. Displays / Exhibits To make the public more aware and informed, newsletters are sent out quarterly emphasizing Smart Growth and the requirements of the comprehensive plan.</p> <p>Bulletins and posters are posted in the Town Hall and people are encouraged to view and ask questions.</p> <p>2. Public Education & Information Meetings Public meetings.</p>	<p>1. Opinion Surveys Opinion surveys have been sent to all residents and the resulting information reviewed and discussed by the Land Use Commission.</p> <p>Citizens are encouraged to attend the town annual meeting to speak and react to the Smart Growth information. They will be encouraged to participate in discussions on what they envision for the Town of Ridgeway in the future.</p> <p>2. Public Hearing Provide opportunity for citizens to speak and react to a proposal in a public setting before elected officials.</p> <p>(Note: A public hearing is the minimal requirement for public participation under the Wisconsin “Smart Growth” Law.)</p>	<p>1. Work directly with the public to ensure that concerns are consistently understood and considered. Hold a Public Meeting for citizens to interact with planners and elected officials..</p>	<p>1. Plan Commission The Land Use Commission is the official planning body and is responsible for comprehensive planning activities and advises the town board on local land use issues.</p>

*Note: The Town of Ridgeway reserves the right to modify the steps above and to utilize additional steps, means, and/or methods in order to gain additional public participation or understanding throughout the comprehensive planning process.

2016 Ridgeway Township Land Use Survey Results

Question 1: Where do you live?

North 18/151	South 18/151	Outside of Township	Total
46%	32%	22%	100%

Question 2: Please select your age range.

18-25	26-50	51-65	66 or more	Total
0%	19%	37%	44%	100%

Question 3: Where do you work?

Town of Ridgeway	Elsewhere in Iowa County	Out of County	Do not Work	Retired	Total
12%	14%	32%	1%	41%	100%

2016 Ridgeway Township Land Use Survey Results

Question 6: Are these issues important to you?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion	No Response	Positive Minus Negative Responses
The quality of water resources	62%	25%	0%	0%	9%	4%	87%
Wildlife habitat should be preserved (forests, wetlands, prairie, etc.)	55%	34%	3%	0%	5%	3%	87%
Protection of natural resources	54%	39%	2%	0%	3%	3%	91%
Identifying and preserving historical sites	36%	46%	5%	1%	9%	3%	76%
Attracting new light industry	25%	46%	11%	6%	6%	4%	54%
Night lighting of buildings and parking lots should have minimal impact on adjacent properties	31%	46%	2%	3%	14%	5%	72%
Attracting commercial development	16%	41%	16%	14%	9%	4%	27%
Provide for affordable housing	13%	46%	17%	7%	13%	4%	35%
Provide senior/assisted living	12%	46%	18%	2%	18%	4%	39%
Cultural organizations and activities	11%	47%	14%	1%	22%	5%	43%
Obtaining high speed internet and cable access	49%	32%	6%	1%	8%	4%	75%
Obtaining Wi-Fi access	38%	40%	5%	1%	9%	7%	72%
Elementary school presence	30%	34%	14%	4%	15%	3%	46%
Preserving farmland, scenic views and rural character	63%	28%	2%	3%	2%	3%	87%

2016 Ridgeway Township Land Use Survey Results

Question 7: What is your opinion of the following land uses in the Town of Ridgeway?

	Essential	Important	Not Important	No Opinion	No Response	Positive Minus Negative Responses
Residential- single family homes	42%	44%	4%	6%	4%	82%
Residential- multiple unit family homes	5%	33%	54%	5%	3%	-15%
Manufactured homes	3%	25%	46%	23%	4%	-19%
Affordable housing	18%	47%	21%	10%	4%	45%
Senior/assisted living	12%	49%	20%	15%	4%	41%
Agriculture	61%	32%	4%	1%	2%	90%
Retail development	8%	43%	38%	8%	4%	13%
Public outdoor recreation	35%	36%	18%	7%	4%	53%
Protection of natural areas/open space	54%	31%	9%	4%	3%	76%
Industrial / manufacturing uses	9%	37%	37%	12%	5%	9%
Motels / hotels	4%	21%	62%	10%	4%	-38%
Convenience stores	10%	37%	37%	13%	4%	10%
Retail stores	9%	38%	43%	8%	3%	4%
Tourism-based (i.e., bed & breakfasts, restaurants, gift shops, eco-tourism)	15%	51%	20%	11%	4%	46%
Professional offices (medical, legal, technology)	8%	39%	38%	12%	3%	10%
Department stores	3%	11%	72%	11%	4%	-58%
Service businesses	10%	57%	18%	11%	4%	50%
Home-based businesses	16%	54%	11%	17%	3%	58%
Clustered housing (traditional subdivision)	6%	23%	47%	20%	4%	-18%
Clustered housing (shared open land)	11%	25%	39%	20%	4%	-2%

2016 Ridgeway Township Land Use Survey Results

Question 8: Rate your opinion of the following Township of Ridgeway transportation issues.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion	No Response	Positive Minus Negative Responses
The overall network of town roads meets your needs	30%	67%	1%	0%	0%	3%	96%
The condition of town roads meets their intended uses	23%	63%	8%	2%	1%	4%	75%
There should be more biking/walking shoulders along town roads	16%	23%	31%	13%	15%	3%	-5%
A park-and-ride lot should be provided near the new highway interchange	18%	52%	4%	4%	19%	4%	61%

Question 9: What is your opinion of the future uses of land near the new highway interchange?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion	No Response	Positive Minus Negative Responses
Continued agricultural use	32%	41%	16%	2%	5%	4%	56%
Agricultural-related business	18%	61%	8%	2%	9%	3%	69%
Commercial and retail	16%	44%	18%	11%	9%	3%	31%
Industrial use	12%	31%	25%	19%	10%	4%	-1%
Community and cultural use	12%	44%	18%	6%	18%	3%	32%

Question 10: Rate your opinion of the following township economic development options.

	Essential	Important	Not Important	No Opinion	No Response	Positive Minus Negative Responses
Commercial	20%	42%	25%	7%	6%	38%
Industrial	11%	39%	36%	8%	7%	13%
Childcare facility	9%	44%	20%	22%	5%	32%
Residential near the village of Ridgeway	16%	52%	18%	8%	6%	49%
Home-based cottage industry	7%	48%	19%	20%	5%	36%
Bed and breakfast	7%	37%	30%	20%	6%	14%
Tourism and recreation	25%	40%	21%	9%	5%	44%
Wind Farm	13%	32%	37%	15%	4%	8%
Solar farm	16%	38%	28%	14%	4%	25%

LOCAL ROADS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (LRIP)

Statutory Authority: s. 86.31, Wis. Stats

Admin. Rule: Chapter TRANS 206

Objective: The Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP) was established in 1991 to assist local units of government in improving seriously deteriorating county highways, municipal streets in cities and villages and town roads. The program is governed by s. 86.31, Wis. Stats., and ch. Trans 206.

Description: LRIP is a reimbursement program, which may pay to a maximum of 50% of total eligible project costs, with the balance of the eligible costs funded by the local unit of government. All applicable projects are locally let and reimbursed by WisDOT upon project completion.

One of the components that provide funding for road improvements for Towns is through the Town Road Improvement Program (TRI) and funding levels are based 100% on mileage.

In addition to entitlements a Town has a discretionary component for Towns to request funding for high-cost projects totaling \$100,000 or more in eligible costs qualify for the Town Road Improvement Discretionary Program (TRID).

Eligibility: Work only on existing Town Roads under the authority of the local unit of government are eligible for funding. Maintenance, new roads or improvements to alleys, or parking lots are not reimbursable through the program, pursuant to ch. Trans 206.

All improvements must have a projected design life of at least ten years. As a result, the same project location cannot be submitted more than once within a 10-year period.

Eligible Projects include the following categories (consistent with FDM 3-5-2): Reconstruction, Pavement Replacement, Reconditioning, Resurfacing and Structure.

Ineligible Costs: Some costs are typically ineligible, but may be allowed under certain conditions.

There may be additional exceptions to eligible and ineligible improvements. Refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the LRIP webpage or contact the LRIP Program Manager.

General Requirements: LRIP projects must be advertised for bids and let to contract. Towns may not use their own work forces or equipment on the LRIP project. The total eligible project cost must equal at least twice the approved LRIP limit to be fully reimbursed. An engineering certification is required when the total eligible costs are greater than \$65,000.

Project Selection: LRIP is managed by the WisDOT Bureau of Transit, Local Roads, Railroads and Harbors (BTLRRH), but is administered by local units of government. Each County Highway Commissioner (CHC) serves as regional program coordinator and county advisor. They also act as administrative contacts between the state and local LRIP recipients in each County.

Funding: LRIP is a biennial program that provides funding based on annual appropriation limits. Programmed funds are available to local communities for three biennia (six years). Any unused funds within a biennium are carried over and added to the new statewide funding level for the biennium.

For more information visit the LRIP homepage located at: <http://Wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/local-gov/astnce-pgms/highway/lrip.aspx>

**AGRICULTURAL,
NATURAL, and
CULTURAL RESOURCES
ELEMENT**

APPENDIX E-1

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
5301 SOUTH CAMPUS DRIVE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60637

**City of Dodgeville
Village of Ridgeway
Town of Dodgeville
Town of Ridgeway**

Community Vision Plan

Iowa County

**A Summary of Public Input
December 2002**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Prepared by:

**Paul Ohlrogge
Community Resource Agent
UW - Extension Iowa County**

On Wednesday December 11 the City of Dodgeville, Village of Ridgeway and the Towns of Dodgeville and Ridgeway participated in a community-visioning program called: ***“Community Vision: Looking to the Future.”*** This visioning exercise took place at the Stonefield Apartment meeting room in Dodgeville, Wisconsin. Paul Ohlrogge of the UW-Extension Office, Amy Knox of Regional Planning and Mary Jenkins of Regional Planning facilitated this program.

Communities today face any number of pressing concerns, including requests for rezoning, demands for affordable housing or the loss of a major employer. Unfortunately, decisions about these issues are frequently made in the absence of a real vision of how the residents want their communities to look in the future.

Planning for a community’s future can be a difficult, time consuming and costly job. Residents are often more concerned about daily tasks rather than think about a vision. Residents want good schools, decent jobs, safe and clean environments and safe neighborhoods in which to live. Without a vision, however, communities limit their ability to make decisions about these issues – somewhat like driving across the country without a roadmap.

Who should determine a community’s future, other than its residents? Should it be a consultant hired to develop a plan, a state or federal agency making decisions on highways or wetlands preservation, or a private developer constructing a shopping mall or a residential subdivision? All these could have a large impact on a community without input from a broad range of residents. Residents need to participate in and actively envision the future of their communities – or other groups and individuals will determine it for them.

The community-visioning program lasted approximately three hours with good healthy discussions on what folks of these four municipalities envisioned their future to be. The program was broken down into three sections. The first section concentrating on: “Our Current Condition”. The second portion focused on: “Challenges and Opportunities.” The third portion focused on: “The Future.”

What follows is a summary of information gathered during the visioning session on a series of questions posed to the group of citizens in attendance. This information, along with other information gathered from a recent written countywide survey, will be used to assist the Regional Planning Commission in drafting a comprehensive plan for the participating jurisdictions. This visioning session will help guide the future of the participating towns and villages Plan Commissions in their efforts to work towards comprehensive planning.

Section 1: Our Current Condition

The following four questions were asked to the group regarding our current condition:

1. What do you like about living in this area of Iowa County?
2. What are some of the community values?
3. What is unique about your community that is not found anywhere else?

What do you like about living in this area of Iowa County?

• The rural character	• Limited traffic
• Privacy	• Variable scenery
• Caring elected officials	• People are caring
• Life supporting services	• Opportunity to be involved
• American Players Theatre is close by	• Good schools
• Active Chamber of Commerce	• Lands' End
• Churches	• Community is receptive to new ideas
• Folklore Village	• Cheese and wine makers
• Clean air	• Agriculture
• Reasonable taxes	• Diversity
• Good health care	• Employment opportunities
• Lesser degree of noise as compared to other places	• Your voice counts
• Reasonable distance to major cities	• Natural resources and wildlife
• Safe communities	• Down-to-earth
• Opportunity for growth	• Viable downtown
• Strong community of artists	• Good snowplow services
• History	• Governor Dodge State park
• Library	• Community Service Organizations
• Local media (Television, Paper and Radio)	• Local Parks
• Bike Trail	• Golf Courses
• Micro Brew Pub	• Quality of roads and highways
• Low Crime rate	• Major tourism area near by
• Festival and parades	• Blues Festival
• Sunsets	• Global Views store

What are some of the community values?

- ◆ Good work ethic
- ◆ History and preservation
- ◆ Natural resources
- ◆ Helping those in need
- ◆ Work, family and community – a balance
- ◆ Heritage
- ◆ Progressive education
- ◆ Honest people
- ◆ Agriculture and land stewardship
- ◆ Respectful people
- ◆ Pride in the community
- ◆ Involvement in the community
- ◆ Willingness to contribute to charity
- ◆ Good neighbors
- ◆ Appreciation for wild spaces/wildlife
- ◆ Opportunities for our children
- ◆ Care for the elderly
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Families
- ◆ Open and responsive government

What is unique about your community that is not found anywhere else?

- Lands' End
- Historic Courthouse in Dodgeville
- Well marked rural roads
- Unglaciated topography
- Pleasant ridge store and restaurant
- Military ridge
- Non-polluting businesses
- Folklore Village
- Governor Dodge History is here
- American Players Theater in the area
- House on the Rock
- Taliesen and Frank Lloyd Wright History
- The Ridgeway Ghost
- Good water
- Trees and prairies
- Windmills and the Montfort wind-farm
- Slag furnace in city of Dodgeville
- Natural springs
- Amazing vistas
- Abundant wildlife
- Limited traffic
- Blue Mounds State park
- 1964 State Champion Basket-Ball Team
- Good hunting and Fishing areas
- Gov. Dodge State Park
- Family Farms
- Trout streams
- Oak savanna's
- CWD
- Mine shafts under the city
- New four lane highway
- A lot of smoke free restaurants

Section 2. Challenges and Opportunities:

The second portion of the Visioning Program focused on the Challenges and Opportunities facing the City of Dodgeville, Village of Ridgeway and the Towns of Dodgeville and Ridgeway. The following questions were used to facilitate discussion on the upcoming challenges:

1. What are some of the challenges and concerns facing your community?
2. What some opportunities for your communities in the future?
3. What type of development or redevelopment should occur in this area?
4. What type of development should not occur?

What are some of the challenges or concerns facing your community?

• Smart growth and the work to go into it	• Urban development – sprawl like Mt. Horeb and Verona is scary
• Siting of houses in rural areas	• CWD
• Lack of high paying jobs	• State and local budget deficits
• Maintaining quality of schools	• Maintaining quality of our drinking water
• Recreation opportunities for all ages	• Terrorism
• Keeping drugs out	• Use of alcohol is high
• Keeping talented people here in our communities (Brain Drain)	• Maintaining family farms
• Balancing private property rights with public views	• Housing for all income levels
• Unplanned growth	• Youth activities or the lack of them
• Maintaining high quality health care	• Planning for an aging population
• Keeping local services in supply for the demand	• A challenge to find a way to be more welcoming to minorities
• Cost of government services	• New grocery store
• Attracting retail businesses	• Balancing living in the country with urban sprawl
• Tax base to support services	• Getting communities to work together
• Financial institutions lose local decision making ability	• Positive youth development opportunities
• Agriculture economy	• Pedestrian safety
• Too much reliance on one major employer	• Economic development for the area
• Polarization with folks who have moved here verses those who were raised here	• Service group membership
• Police and Fire protection as community grows	• Education and acceptance of smart growth
• Current financial state of the school district	• High number of senior citizens living in poverty
• Providing water at a low cost	• Hard to get younger and talented people involved in local decision making and broader community involvement
• Understanding the difficulty of maintaining a good healthy forest land	• Zoning and Planning complimentary towns and county
• Providing for the performing arts	• An auditorium
• Maintaining strong E.M.T. services and membership in them	• Annexation to certain towns

What are some opportunities for your communities in the future?

Inter – Community collaboration	Develop more of Eco-Tourism
Sell and promote the many wonders of this area to those who are not from here	Control urban development and sprawl
Provide means of affordable housing to keep people here	Increase public participation
Opportunity to learn from other groups, municipalities that have done comprehensive planning already	One time opportunity to preserve rural character
Opportunity to learn that growth can be positive when done “smart”	Capitalize on geographic location in a managed way
Opportunity to minimize land use conflicts in the future	Get young people involved in the planning process
Preserve the Unglaciaded area	Opportunity to be easier to understand zoning etc

<i>What type of development or redevelopment should occur in this area?</i>	<i>What type of development should not occur?</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development that takes conservation and agriculture in mind 2. Design review criteria to keep community character 3. More restaurants 4. Transition (a new way) from agriculture conservation to rural residential 5. Look at 15 acre minimum rural lot size 6. Look at clustering for rural housing explore the idea 7. Siting of rural housing to preserve the landscape 8. Development should be close to the city for businesses and housing 9. Industrial, commercial, and retail development 10. Low impact industry (type we have now) 11. Infrastructure in place for the development close to town 12. Some size limitations on mega-farms (needs to be thought about) 13. Consideration for larger farms and their impact on the local area 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate farms – mega farms 2. Casinos 3. Prisons 4. Heavy industry or smokestacks 5. Strip- malls 6. Big electrical transmission lines 7. No mega slaughter houses

Section 3. The Future

The final segment of the visioning process was to look ahead at a preferred vision of the future. Visioning is *a process* by which a community envisions the future it wants, and plans how to achieve it. Through public involvement, communities identify their purpose, core values and vision of the future. The following questions were asked to encourage discussion on the community's vision for the future.

1. What words do you want your grandchildren to use to describe your community?
2. What do you want to preserve?
3. What do you want your community to look like in 2022?

What words do you want your grandchildren to use to describe your community?

• Cool	• Neat	• Progressive
• Safe	• Tolerant	• Fun
• Comfortable	• Retreat like	• Beautiful
• Clean	• Quiet	• Home
• Open-minded	• Friendly	• Healthy
• Smoke free	• Prosperous	• Environmentally conscious
• Interesting	• Well thought out	• Good planning
• Opportunistic	• Collaboration	• Resourceful
• Opportunity for them to make decisions here	• Quaint	• Scenic
• Close knit	• Smoke free indoor air	• A place I want to live in

What do you want to preserve?

- Historic courthouse
- Darkness
- Quietness
- Vibrant schools
- Parks
- Hospitals
- Safe communities
- Downtown
- Agriculture land
- Natural resources
- Talking about conservation

What do you want your community to look like in 2022?

Clean	Diversified human resources
Downtown vibrant	No need for a humane society
Have an auditorium in Dodgeville	Wide open spaces
Well kept farms	Mass transit system
Indoor pool and Ice Arena	Smoke free work place ordinance
Appreciation for the site scapes	Unpolluted environment
Ice cream dipper gone	Have community get together to share ideas
Park district	Leashless Dog Park
Communication system in step with the times and technology available	No CWD
Inter-fill development – use what is available first	Regional sewer system
More Bike lanes	Affordable access to health care
Farms with traditional Barns preserved	Regional higher educational facility in the area
Controlled traffic	Theatre Arts Center
Growth of housing, business, commercial so our children have a place to come back to after college	Future opportunities for our children are here
Would like retail development, a strip mall or a Wal-Mart	Preserve the Downtown
Book Store	Ethnic restaurants
No super Wal-Marts	Technology for the internet - broadband
Technology so we do not use as much salt on the roads	Mexican restaurant

Appendix E-1

Dry Cliff (Exposed Cliff of Curtis' community classification)

With dry vertical bedrock exposures, thin-soiled, very dry communities occur on many different rock types, which are thus quite varied in species composition. Scattered pines, oaks, or shrubs often occur. However, the most characteristic plants are often the ferns such as common polypody (*Polypodium vulgare*) and rusty woodsia (*Woodsia ilvensis*). The following herbs are also common, such as: columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*), pale corydalis (*Corydalis sempervirens*), juneberry (*Amelanchier* spp.), bush-honeysuckle (*Diervilla lonicera*), and rock spikemoss (*Selaginella rupestris*), and fringe bindweed (*Polygonum cilinode*).

Dry Prairie

This grassland community occurs on dry, often loess-derived soils, usually on steep south- or west-facing slopes or at the summits of river bluffs with sandstone or dolomite near the surface. Short to medium-sized prairie grasses such as little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), side-oats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), hairy grama (*B. hirsuta*), and prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*), are the dominants in this community, along with the larger big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*). Common shrubs and forbs include lead plant (*Amorpha canescens*), silky aster (*Aster sericeus*), flowering spurge (*Euphorbia corollata*), purple prairie-clover (*Petalostemum purpureum*), cylindrical blazing-star (*Liatris cylindracea*), and gray goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*).

Dry-Mesic Prairie

This grassland community occurs on slightly less droughty xeric sites than Dry Prairie and has many of the same dominant grasses, but taller species such as big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*) and Indian-grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) dominate and are commoner than little bluestem (*A. scoparius*). Needle grass (*Stipa spartea*) may also be present. The forb-herb component is more diverse than in Dry Prairies, including many species that occur in both Dry and Mesic Prairies.

Emergent Aquatic

These open, marsh, lake, riverine and estuarine communities with permanent standing water are dominated by robust emergent macrophytes, in pure stands of single species or in various mixtures. Dominants include are often species of cattails (*Typha* spp.), bulrushes (particularly *Scirpus acutus*, *S. fluviatilis*, and *S. validus*), bur-reeds (*Sparganium* spp.), giant reed (*Phragmites australis*), pickerel-weed (*Pontederia cordata*), water-plantains (*Alisma* spp.), arrowheads (*Sagittaria* spp.), and the larger species of spikerush such as (*Eleocharis smallii*).

Floodplain Forest

(Replaces in part the **Southern Wet** and **Southern Wet-Mesic Forests** of Curtis)

This is a lowland hardwood forest community that occurs along large rivers, usually stream order 3 or higher, that flood periodically. The best development occurs along large southern rivers in southern Wisconsin, but this community is also found in the northern Wisconsin. Canopy dominants may include silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*), river birch (*Betula nigra*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*), and cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*). Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) is a locally dominant shrub and may form dense thickets on the margins of oxbow lakes, sloughs, and ponds within the forest. Nettles (*Laportea canadensis* and *Urtica dioica*), sedges, ostrich fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*), and gray-headed coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*) are important understory herbs, and lianas such as Virginia creepers (*Parthenocissus* spp.), grapes (*Vitis* spp.), Canada moonseed (*Menispermum canadense*), and poison-ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), are often common. Among the striking and characteristic herbs of this community are green-headed coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*), cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), green dragon (*Arisaema dracontium*), and false dragonhead (*Physostegia virginiana*).

Forested Seep

These are shaded seepage areas with active spring discharges in (usually) hardwood forests that may host a number of uncommon to rare species. The overstory dominant is frequently black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*), but yellow birch (*Betula allegheniensis*), American elm (*Ulmus americanus*), and many other tree species may be present including conifers such as hemlock (*Tsuga Canadensis*) or white pine (*Pinus strobus*). Undersoty species include skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*), water-pennywort (*Hydrocotyle americanus*), marsh blue violet (*Viola cucullata*), swamp saxifrage (*Saxifraga pennsylvanica*), golden saxifrage (*Chyososplenium americanum*), golden ragwort (*Sececio aureus*), silvery spleenwort (*Athyrium thelypteroides*), and the rare

Appendix E-1

sedeges (*Carex scabrata* and *C. prasina*). Most documented occurrences are in the Driftless area, or locally along major rivers flanked by steep bluffs.

phemeral Pond

These ponds are depressions with pockets of impeded drainage (usually in forest landscapes), which hold water for a period of time following snowmelt but typically dry out by mid-summer. Common aquatic plants of these habitats include yellow water crowfoot (*Ranunculus flabellaris*), mermaid weed (*Proserpinaca palustris*), Canada bluejoint grass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*), floating manna grass (*Glyceria septentrionalis*), spotted cowbane (*Cicuta maculata*), smartweeds (*Polygonum spp.*), orange jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), and sedges. Ephemeral ponds provide critical breeding habitat for certain invertebrates, as well as for many amphibians such as frogs and salamanders.

Shrub-Carr

This primarily Southern wetland community is usually dominated by tall shrubs such as red-osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*), but meadow-sweet (*Spiraea alba*), and various willows (*Salix discolor*, *S. bebbiana*, and *S. gracilis*) are frequently also important. Canada grass bluejoint grass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*) is often very common. Other herbs Associates are similar to those found in Alder Thickets and tussock-type Sedge Meadows. This type is common and widespread in southern Wisconsin but also occurs in the north.

Southern Sedge Meadow

Widespread in southern Wisconsin, this open wetland community is most typically a tussock marsh dominated by tussock sedge (*Carex stricta*) and Canada bluejoint grass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*). Common associates are water-horehound (*Lycopus uniflorus*), paniced aster (*Aster simplex*), blue flag (*Iris virginica*), Canada goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), spotted joe-pye-weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*), broad-leaved common cattail (*Typha latifolia*), and swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*). Reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) may be dominant in grazed and/or ditched stands. Ditched stands can succeed quickly to Shrub-Carr.

Wet-Mesic Prairie

This herbaceous grassland community is dominated by tall grasses including big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), Canada bluejoint grass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*), cordgrass (*Spartina pectinata*), and Canada wild-rye (*Elymus canadensis*). The forb component is diverse and includes azure aster (*Aster oolentangiensis*), shooting-star (*Dodecatheon meadia*), sawtooth sunflower (*Helianthus grosseserratus*), prairie blazing-star (*Liatris pycnostachya*), prairie phlox (*Phlox pilosa*), prairie coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*), prairie docks (*Silphium integrifolium* and *S. terebinthinaceum*), late and stiff goldenrods (*Solidago gigantea* and *S. rigida*), and culver's-root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*).

Hemlock Relict

These are isolated hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) stands occurring in deep, moist ravines or on cool, north- or east-facing slopes in southwestern Wisconsin. Associated trees include white pine (*Pinus strobus*) and yellow birch (*Betula allegheniensis*). The groundlayer includes herbaceous species with northern affinities such as shining clubmoss (*Lycopodium lucidulum*), bluebead lily (*Clintonia borealis*), Canada mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*), woodferns (*Dryopteris spp.*), and mountain maple (*Acer spicatum*). Cambrian sandstone cliffs are usually nearby and often prominent.

Mesic Prairie

This grassland community occurs on rich, moist, well-drained sites. The dominant plant is the tall grass, big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*). The grasses little bluestem (*Andropogon scoparius*), indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), porcupine grass (*Stipa spartea*), prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*), tall switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), and switch grass (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) are also frequent. The forb layer is diverse in the number, size, and physiognomy of the species. Common taxa include the prairie docks (*Silphium spp.*), lead plant (*Amorpha canescens*), heath and smooth asters (*Aster ericoides* and *A. laevis*), sand coreopsis (*Coreopsis palmata*), prairie sunflower (*Helianthus laetiflorus*), rattlesnake-master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*), flowering spurge (*Euphorbia corollata*), beebalm (*Monarda fistulosa*), prairie coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*), and spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohioensis*).

Moist Cliff (Shaded Cliff of the Curtis community classification)

This "micro-community" occurs on shaded (by trees or the cliff itself because of aspect), moist to seeping mossy, vertical exposures of various rock types, most commonly sandstone and dolomite. Common species

Appendix E-1

are columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), the fragile ferns (*Cystopteris bulbifera* and *C. fragilis*), wood ferns (*Dryopteris* spp.), polypody (*Polypodium vulgare*), rattlesnake root (*Prenanthes alba*), and wild sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*). The rare flora of these cliffs vary markedly in different parts of the state; Driftless Area cliffs might have northern monkshood (*Aconitum noveboracense*), those on Lake Superior, butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), or those in Door County, green spleenwort (*Asplenium viride*).

Oak Opening

As defined by Curtis, this is an oak-dominated savanna community in which there is a less than 50% tree canopy. Historically, oak openings occurred on wet-mesic to dry sites. The few extant remnants are mostly on drier sites; the mesic and wet-mesic openings are almost totally destroyed by conversion to agricultural or residential uses, and by the encroachment of other woody plants due to fire suppression. Bur, white, and black oaks (*Quercus macrocarpa*, *Q. alba* and *Q. velutina*) are dominant in mature stands as large, open-grown trees with distinctive limb architecture. Shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*) is sometimes present. American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*) is a common shrub, and while the herb layer is similar to those found in oak forests and dry prairies, with many of the same grasses and forbs present, there are some plants and animals that reach their optimal abundance in the "openings".

Pine Barrens

This savanna community is characterized by scattered small jack pines (*Pinus banksiana*), or less commonly, red pines (*P. resinosa*), often sometimes mixed with scrubby Hill's and bur oaks (*Quercus ellipsoidalis* and *Q. macrocarpa*), interspersed with openings in which shrubs (such as hazelnuts (*Corylus* spp.) and prairie willow (*Salix humilis*)) and herbs dominate. The flora often contains species characteristic of "heaths" such as blueberries (*Vaccinium angustifolium* and *V. myrtilloides*), bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*), sweet fern (*Comptonia peregrina*), and sand fire cherry (*Prunus pensylvanica*). Also present are dry sand prairie species such as June grass (*Koeleria macrantha*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), silky and sky-blue asters (*Aster sericeus* and *A. azureus*), lupine (*Lupinus perennis*), blazing stars (*Liatris aspera* and *L. cylindracea*), and western sunflower (*Helianthus occidentalis*). Pines may be infrequent, even absent, in some stands in northern Wisconsin and elsewhere because of past logging, altered fire regimes, and an absence of seed source.

Pine Relicts

These isolated stands of white pine (*Pinus strobus*) and red pine (*P. resinosa*) or, less commonly, jack pine (*P. banksiana*), which occur on sandstone outcrops or in thin soils over sandstone in the Driftless Area of southwestern Wisconsin, have historically been referred to as relicts. The understories often contain species with northern affinities such as blueberries (*Vaccinium* spp.), huckleberry (*Gaylussacia baccata*), wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*), pipsissewa (*Chimaphila umbellata*), and partridge berry (*Mitchella repens*), sometimes mixed with herbs typically found in southern Wisconsin's oak forests and prairies.

Sand Barrens

Sand Barrens are herbaceous upland communities that are best developed on unstable or semi-stabilized alluvial sands along major rivers such the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers. They are partly or perhaps wholly anthropogenic in origin, occurring on sites historically disturbed by plowing or very heavy past grazing. Unvegetated "blow-outs" are characteristic features. Barrens, Dry Prairie and Sand Prairie species such as false-heather (*Hudsonia tomentosa*), bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), sedges (*Cyperus filiculmis* and *C. schweinitzii*), sand cress (*Arabis lyrata*), three-awn grasses (*Aristida* spp.), rock spikemoss (*Selaginella rupestris*), and the earthstar fungi (*Geaster* spp.) are present in this community. Many exotics are present, and as well as rare disturbance dependent species such as fame flower (*Talinum rugospermum*) occur in some stands.

Sand Prairie (or Dry Sand Prairie)

This dry grassland community is composed of little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), junegrass (*Koeleria macrantha*), panic grass (*Panicum* spp.), and crab grass (*Digitaria cognata*). Common herbaceous species are western ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*), the sedges (*Carex muhlenbergii* and *C. pensylvanica*), poverty-oat grass (*Danthonia spicata*), flowering spurge (*Euphorbia corollata*), frostweed (*Helianthemum canadense*), common bush-clover (*Lespedeza capitata*), false-heather (*Hudsonia tomentosa*), long-bearded hawkweed (*Hieracium longipilum*), stiff goldenrod (*Solidago rigida*), horsebalm (*Monarda punctata*), and spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohioensis*). It is often the remnant of an Oak Barrens. At least some stands are Barrens remnants now lacking appreciable woody cover, though extensive stands may have occurred historically on broad level terraces along the Mississippi, Wisconsin, Black, and Chippewa Rivers.

Appendix E-1

Southern Dry-Mesic Forest

Red oak (*Quercus rubra*) is a common dominant tree of this upland forest community type. White oak (*Q. ba*), basswood (*Tilia americana*), sugar and red maples (*Acer saccharum* and *A. rubrum*), and white ash (*Fraxinus americana*) are also important. The herbaceous understory flora is diverse and includes many species listed under Southern Dry Forest, plus jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), enchanter's-nightshade (*Circaea lutetiana*), large-flowered bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*), interrupted fern (*Osmunda claytoniana*), Lady Fern (*Athyrium Filix-femina*), tick trefoils (*Desmodium glutinosum* and *D. nudiflorum*), and hog peanut (*Amphicarpa bracteata*). To the detriment of the oaks, mesophytic tree species are becoming increasingly important under current management practices and fire suppression policies.

Southern Mesic Forest

This upland forest community occurs on rich, well-drained soils. The dominant tree species is sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), but basswood (*Tilia americana*) and (near Lake Michigan) beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) may be co-dominant. Many other trees are found in these forests, including those of the walnut family (*Juglandaceae*). The understory is typically open (sometimes brushy with species of gooseberry (*Ribes spp.*) if there is a past history of grazing) and supports fine spring ephemeral displays. Characteristic herbs are spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*), trout-lilies (*Erythronium spp.*), trilliums (*Trillium spp.*), violets (*Viola spp.*), bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*), blue cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*), mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*), and Virginia waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum virginianum*).

AGRICULTURAL,
NATURAL, and
CULTURAL RESOURCES
ELEMENT

APPENDIX E-2

ANATOMICAL
AND PHYSIOLOGICAL
CULTURAL RESEARCH
ELEMENTS

Appendix E-2

Group	Common	Status	Date Listed
FISH	SLENDER MADTOM	END	1976
FISH	REDSIDE DACE	SC/N	1972
FISH	WEED SHINER	SC/N	1972
FROG	BLANCHARD'S CRICKET FROG	END	1983
PLANT	THREE-FLOWER MELIC GRASS	SC	1959
PLANT	AMERICAN FEVER-FEW	THR	1992
PLANT	GLADE MALLOW	SC	1998
PLANT	WILD HYACINTH	END	1995
PLANT	POMME-DE-PRAIRIE	SC	1991
PLANT	YELLOW GENTIAN	THR	1947
PLANT	AMERICAN GROMWELL	SC	1976
PLANT	ROCK STITCHWORT	SC	1995
PLANT	MARBLESEED	SC	1995
PLANT	ONE-FLOWERED BROOMRAPE	SC	1947
PLANT	SCHWEINITZ'S SEDGE	END	1965
COMMUNITY	DRY PRAIRIE	NA	1976
COMMUNITY	SOUTHERN SEDGE MEADOW	NA	1976
COMMUNITY	DRY CLIFF	NA	1976
COMMUNITY	PINE RELICT	NA	1976
COMMUNITY	SOUTHERN DRY-MESIC FOREST	NA	1976

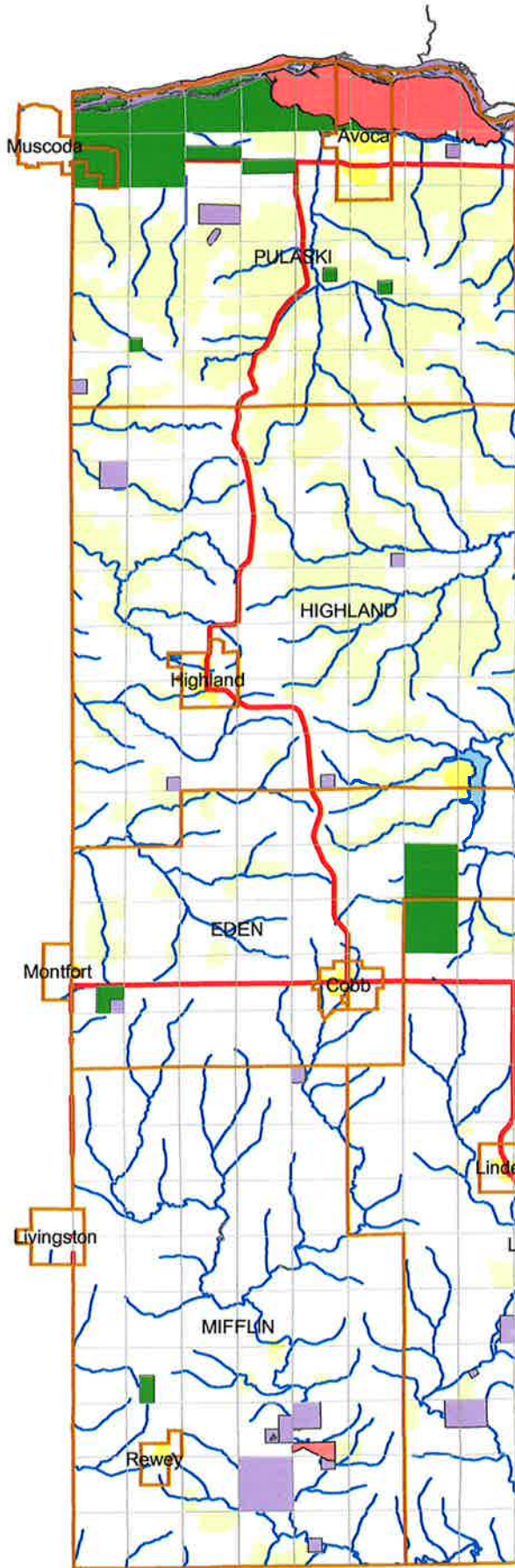
Federal Status Definitions

- LE = listed endangered
 LT = listed threatened
 LE-LT = listed endangered in part of its range, threatened in another part
 XN = nonessential experimental population in part of its range
 LT,PD = listed threatened, proposed for de-listing
 C = candidate for future listing

Wisconsin Status Definitions

- END = endangered
 THR = threatened
 SC = special concern
 SC/P = fully protected
 SC/N = no laws regulating use, possession, or harvesting
 SC/H = take regulated by establishment of open closed seasons
 SC/FL = federally protected as endangered or threatened, but not so designated by WDNR
 SC/M = fully protected by federal and state laws under Migratory Bird Act

MAP E.7-b



Legend

- Military Ridge Prairie Heritage Area
- State Natural Areas
- T & E Plants
- T & E Natural Communities
- Forest
- Urban Developed
- Rivers



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
719 Pioneer Tower
1 University Plaza
Platteville, WI 53818

June 7, 2004
IA CO Threat-Endang Spec-E-7-b

1 inch equals 3.05 miles

