

9. IMPLEMENTATION

Outlining steps to implement a plan is essential to achieving the plan's goals. This element of the plan will address implementation of the Crawford County comprehensive plan. The State of Wisconsin Comprehensive Planning Law requires the Implementation Element to include a list of specific programs and actions that will implement the objectives, policies, plans and programs identified in the plan. The element is required to state how each of the elements of the plan are integrated and consistent with each other, identify a mechanism to measure the local government's progress toward achieving the plan, and include a process for updating the plan.

By 2010, if a local government unit engages in official mapping, local subdivision regulations, zoning ordinances, and zoning of shorelands or wetlands those actions must be consistent with the local unit of government's comprehensive plan. The adoption of this plan will ensure all regulatory activities are conducted within the requirements of Wisconsin State Statutes.

Consistency Among Plan Elements

Wisconsin Statutes require a discussion of how the plan is consistent across elements. The Crawford County Board of Supervisor established a County Planning Committee (a division of the Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning Committee) as the governmental body to oversee the development of all the planning elements. This Planning Committee oversaw the planning process and helped to address inconsistencies. During the planning process members of the County Board were periodically updated on progress of the plan helping ensure plan consistency with existing County policy. In addition, plan copies were forwarded to the Crawford County Board of Supervisors and the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission to ensure the document was consistent with other planning activities in Crawford County and the region.

Plan Adoption

The quality of a comprehensive plan may be judged by the concrete actions that are taken to achieve the plan's goals. Adopting the Crawford County Comprehensive Plan is the first step in implementing the plan. The Plan Committee will recommend approval of the plan to the County Board by resolution. The County Board must then adopt the plan by ordinance in order to enact the plan. Once adopted the plan serves as a framework and guide for the development of the County over the next 20 years.

Plan Monitoring and Plan Updates

The Crawford County Board and its various committees will be the primary bodies responsible for implementing and monitoring the plan over the 20-year planning period. Updates and revisions to the plan will also be the responsibility of the County Board and will be done in accordance to Wisconsin State Statute requirements at a minimum of once every 10 years.

The Crawford County Board of Supervisors has designated the Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning Committee as the governmental body to oversee the maintenance and implementation of the Crawford County Comprehensive Plan. It is recommended that Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning Committee review the comprehensive plan annually at its January meeting to evaluate progress of implementation and determine if a plan update or revision is necessary. The success of the plan will be measured by the degree to which the planning goals are achieved through the annual comprehensive review.

Implementation Element Goals

Through the public participation planning process the following Implementation goals were established for the Crawford County Comprehensive Plan. As described in previous sections, in the context of this plan goals are broad statements that Crawford County desires to achieve. Following each goal are associated policies, programs/actions, etc. that are recommended to address each goal.

Goal A ► Identify policies and programs to implement recommendations of the comprehensive plan.

1. The Implementation Element attempts to organize the policies, programs/actions, etc. in an organized and meaningful schedule. An implementation schedule is detailed below.

Goal B ► Provide the opportunity for public input throughout the planning process and future updates.

1. The Crawford County Comprehensive Plan will be updated at a minimum once every 10 years. During the plan update process resident involvement will be solicited through public meetings or reassessing and updating the resident survey. A public hearing will be held on any modifications made to the plan. The plan update will include measuring plan performance at achieving goals, revising statistical information, and updating projections and analysis of past projections. The final stage of the update process will include revising and/or updating implementation strategies to meet the changing needs of the Crawford County.

Goal C ► Balance individual property rights with community interests and goals.

1. Continue to follow the planning process in the adopted "Crawford County Public Participation Plan" which details activities to gain public input through public meetings, public surveys, and general public awareness of the planning process. Following the public participation plan will ensure that balance in the form of public input and opinions will be achieved during the planning process.
2. Utilize public input in the planning process and update the comprehensive plan a minimum of once every 10 years.

Implementation Schedule

The following implementation schedule has been developed for the Crawford County Comprehensive Plan. The schedule includes Items identified in previous elements that require action by the County Board. Unless specified otherwise the actions are to be continued throughout the planning period. In several cases the action described is to be initiated within a specific time period (2010-2012 or 2010-2020).

General policies that will guide the future development of the Crawford County are not included in the implementation schedule. It is recommended that a full review of applicable plan elements be conducted when evaluating future development proposals.

Land Use Element

Actions to be initiated 2010-2012

Goal A(1) Evaluate existing conservation subdivision ordinances and develop model ordinance guidelines specific to Crawford County for local units of government to consider using. A conservation subdivision can be described as a development with common open space and compact clustered lots. Conservation subdivisions, when proposed/developed in the county will minimize future maintenance and service costs for the county, and the conservation subdivision will help preserve the rural character of the county.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal A(2) Evaluate creating a minimum lot size for residential development in the unincorporated areas of the county.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal D(1) Work cooperatively with towns to determine the most effective methods to develop a detailed county/town Land Use Map and administer land management ordinance(s) that will achieve the goals of the Land Use Element. Following the actions described in Appendix 3 will accomplish this goal.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Actions to be initiated 2010-2020

Goal A(3) Update the county’s Farmland Preservation Plan based on the County Land Use Map. This is a requirement of the Working Lands Initiative.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal A(4) Update the county’s Subdivision Ordinance in an effort to meet the changing needs of the county.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal B(1) Explore opportunities for Towns to work collaboratively with incorporated communities in the county. This may include the county facilitating or organizing informational meetings for local units of government regarding annexation, intergovernmental service agreements, revenue sharing, extra-territorial zoning, etc.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation –Agriculture and Extension

Actions to be implemented Throughout the Planning Period

Goal A(5) Inform/educate landowners and elected officials on the importance of forested lands in the county.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal B(2) In an effort to protect scenic vista’s continue enforcement of Crawford County’s Telecommunications Regulations and Standards ordinance.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal C(1) Continue enforcement of the county’s Floodplain, Shoreland and Wetland ordinances.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal C(2) Continue to evaluate the “Wisconsin Ag Siting Law” and determine its impacts on Crawford County’s ability to manage the location of CAFO’s and the County’s local decision making power.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal C(3) Promote the use of Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP’S) by landowners and agricultural producers in Crawford County.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal C(4) Protect the County’s “dark skies” from light pollution sources. This in part can be accomplished by informing/educating residents, businesses, and elected officials on methods to manage light sources. Other methods to consider would be creating lighting standards/requirements for significant light sources.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal C(5) Work to manage noxious weeds and nuisance species in the county. To address this issue, provide information to residents about the effects of noxious weeds and nuisance species.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Housing Element
Actions to be initiated 2010-2012
<p>Goal E(1) Require legally binding user agreements prior to building permit approvals for rural housing developments (two or more housing units) proposing shared wells. <i>Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning</i></p>
Actions to be initiated 2010-2020
<p>Goal A(1) Implement regular county-wide housing assessments to ensure that housing stock is meeting the needs of residents. <i>Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension</i></p>
Actions to be implemented Throughout the Planning Period
<p>Goal A(2) Continue the enforcement the State of Wisconsin One and Two Family Building Code by providing housing inspections during construction. <i>Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning</i></p> <p>Goal B(1), Goal B (2), Goal C (1), and Goal C (2) Support activities of the Crawford County Housing Coalition in achieving its goals related to the creation of affordable housing for senior, disabled residents and the creation of affordable housing for all age groups. In addition, work with cities, villages, and towns in the county to identify locations for elderly/assisted living housing facilities and for affordable housing facilities. <i>Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension</i></p>

Transportation Element

Actions to be initiated 2010-2020

Goal A(1) Work with WDOT and explore developing park and ride lots and/or carpooling programs for residents. A key component of this initiative would be to ensure that local and regional employers are involved in project or program development.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Highway

Goal C(1) Explore development of a multi-use trail system throughout the county that would connect the scenic/recreation corridors of the Mississippi River, Wisconsin River, and Kickapoo River.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Highway and Agriculture and Extension

Goal C(2) Rustic Road Designation – investigate designation of rustic roads to help promote tourism.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Highway and Agriculture and Extension

Actions to be implemented Throughout the Planning Period

Goal A(2) Remain active on the La Crosse Area Regional Transportation Action Committee that was formed in 2008 to identify and improve public transportation options for the region's residents.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Aging Disability Resource

Goal B(1) Widen shoulders on roads when possible to accommodate such uses as biking, Amish buggies, farm equipment, and slower moving vehicles.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation -Highway

Goal B(2) Continue to biannually update the Crawford County Road System on State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads (WISLR) program.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation -Highway

Goal B(3) Maintain communications with neighboring counties and continually monitor road impacts from potential business or residential expansion in the area.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Highway

Goal B(4) Review development proposals to ensure public roads provide sufficient access/turnarounds for emergency vehicles, school buses, etc.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Highway and Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal B(5) Encourage proposed developments to be designed sensitive to the needs of bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit dependent residents.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation – Highway and Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal C(3) Coordinate with the county Tourism Council and local tourism organizations to ensure consistency between transportation and tourism goals.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation –Highway and Agriculture and Extension

Goal C(4) Continue improving the bicycle route system established throughout the county. It is recommended that the county work with neighboring counties and bicycling associations to ensure the Crawford County Trails system connects to other facilities when possible.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Highway and Agriculture and Extension

Utilities and Community Facilities Element

Actions to be initiated 2010-2012

Goal A(1) It is recommended that the county Public Property and Licenses Committee annually review the list of public facilities to determine if the space and use of current facilities is adequate.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Public Property and Licenses

Actions to be initiated 2010-2020

Goal B(1) It is recommended that the county in conjunction with cities, villages and towns work to develop necessary ordinances to manage the utilization of alternative energy sources ensuring a net benefit to the residents of county.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning and Agriculture and Extension

Goal B(2) It is recommended that the county pursue grant funding to modify existing county facilities to improve energy efficiency.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Public Property and Licenses

Goal B(3) Review the State's Solar and Wind Access Law and determine if additional local ordinances are needed to either encourage or regulate solar or wind energy.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Planning and Zoning and Agriculture

Goal C(1) Work cooperatively with the Public Service Commission and communication service providers to survey county businesses and residents to establish existing service areas and gaps in internet service.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Actions to be implemented Throughout the Planning Period

Goal A(2) Continue joint purchases and sharing of materials/equipment with neighboring counties, local towns, cities and villages in order to provide community services in the most efficient manner possible.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Highway

Goal A(3) Throughout the planning period continue to monitor the changing needs of Crawford County residents through surveys, focus groups, etc. and provide or update community facilities as needed.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal D(1) Encourage communities to adopt wellhead protection ordinances when new municipal wells are installed in Crawford County.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning and Agriculture and Extension

Goal D(2) Monitor the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources enforcement of pre and post construction stormwater runoff regulations in Crawford County to ensure the water resources of the County are protected.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Agriculture, Natural and Cultural Resources Element

Actions to be initiated 2010-2012

Goal B(1) Support the revision and implementation of the Crawford County Land and Water Resources Plan. The Crawford County Land Conservation Department is beginning the process of updating the County Land and Water Resources Plan.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal B(2) Continue enforcement and of the county Private Onsite Sanitary Sewer Ordinance and evaluate requirements for privies/portable sanitary facilities to ensure surface and groundwater resources are protected.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal C(1) Explore the development of a regional purchase of development rights program in order to leverage state and federal funding for the preservation of agricultural land.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Actions to be initiated 2010-2020

Goal A(1) Evaluate local, state, and federal policies and programs to identify opportunities to maintain and preserve the natural resources and natural areas of the county. Possible tools to evaluate include land use regulations, purchase of development rights programs, conservancy organizations, landowner information/education programs, etc.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning and Agriculture and Extension

Goal A(2) Identify conservancy organizations and make information available to landowners regarding land preservation options available through land conservancy organizations.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal B(3) Explore activities to monitor and protect the surface waters of the County to insure they are safe for whole body contact recreation activities.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation -Public Health

Goal B(4) Explore policies to protect the groundwater resources of the county from potential non-resident users.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning and Agriculture and Extension

Goal E(1) and Goal E(2) Work in conjunction with County historical societies/committees in identifying and preserving historic and cultural sites throughout the County. Increase the number of historic sites listed on the national Register of Historic Places and or the State Register of Historic Places.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal F(1) Work to incorporate existing scenic areas, pubic recreational areas, river corridors, etc. in Crawford County into an integrated recreation/park system.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning and Agriculture and Extension

Actions to be implemented Throughout the Planning Period

Goal A(3) Inform/educate landowners on the importance of utilizing the natural resources of the county in a sustainable manner to ensure future generations gain the same benefits and opportunities from the resources.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal B(5) Encourage cooperation among local units of government in the location, service area, and installation of public water, sewer, and stormwater systems.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning and Agriculture and Extension

Goal D(1) Inform/educate elected officials, business owners and landowners of the importance of preserving and maintaining the County's forests in a sustainable manner.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning and Agriculture and Extension

Goal E(3) Work with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and Wisconsin Department of Tourism to maintain historic markers and visitor facilities along state and federal highways throughout the County.
Committee(s) responsible for implementation -Highway

Goal F(2) Support opportunities to maintain or increase public land holdings throughout the County and conservation/access easements to the County's water resources.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning and Agriculture and Extension

Economic Development Element

Actions to be initiated 2010-2012

Goal A(1) Improve the business environment in Crawford County by enhancing the business infrastructure (communications, transportation, etc.) necessary for existing and new businesses to prosper.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal D(1) Identify a County Committee responsible for staying abreast of changing technologies to ensure the County is ready and able to take advantage of innovative technology improvements.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension and Public Property and Licenses

Goal G(1) Create an Economic Development Committee. The Economic Development Committee would identify the goals, membership (private/public), and structure of a County Economic Development Corporation along with the legal method to create such a corporation.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Actions to be initiated 2010-2020

Goal A(2) and Goal A(3) Improve communication between government and the business community in order to address timely issues and address needs of existing businesses. To accomplish this work in conjunction with local and regional business organizations and associations (the Crawford- Vernon Inventors and Entrepreneurs Club, Prairie Du Chien Area Chamber of Commerce, Prairie du Chien Downtown Revitalization Inc. the Prairie du Chien Industrial Development Corp., Kickapoo Valley Association, etc.) to provide businesses with necessary technical information, address workforce development and other business operational needs, promote existing businesses, and identify needs for business expansion in the County.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal C(1) Continue to promote policies and programs aimed at growing the local agricultural economy.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal E(1) Participate in and encourage local and regional collaboration between businesses, business support organizations, and local governments to identify and initiate economic development efforts.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal E(2), Goal E(3) and Goal E(4) Support programs, policies, ordinances that enhance home businesses and maintain policies and ordinances that encourage niche businesses. In addition, encourage "green" businesses that conserve the natural environment as well as those that support green industries such as solar power manufacturing and bio-fuels, and green building.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning and Agriculture and Extension

Goal F(1) Improve communication between incorporated and unincorporated local units of government on economic development related issues.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Actions to be implemented Throughout the Planning Period

Goal C(2) Continue to maintain and update the Crawford County Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years. Updating the plan maintains eligibility for the County to apply for DNR recreational grant funding to improve parks.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal C(3) Increase exposure through coordinated marketing of tourism and recreational opportunities available in Crawford County (Kickapoo River, biking trails, Wisconsin River, Mississippi River, Apple Orchards, etc.).

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal E(5) Create the economic infrastructure and economic environment in the County that enables people and businesses to manage and produce locally (when practical) the entire means for product production from natural resource to end product.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Goal F(2) Work with existing economic development organizations to improve systems for effectively matching new and existing business owners with technical support and financing programs.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension

Intergovernmental Cooperation Element

Actions to be initiated 2010-2020

Goal B(1) Explore shared staffing between local units of government.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension and Personnel

Goal B(2) Explore collaboration between governmental units to provide services based on service area versus traditional political boundaries.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension and Personnel

Actions to be implemented Throughout the Planning Period

Goal A(1) Maintain cooperative protective services countywide (Sheriff's Department, State Patrol, and local police departments).

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Public Safety

Goal A(2) Maintain joint fire departments/emergency response units and mutual aid agreements throughout the county.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Public Safety

Goal A(3) Work with local and state elected representative to restore local government control and decision making power.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Land Conservation, Planning and Zoning

Goal B(3) Consider regional marketing opportunities with other governmental/non-governmental units.

Committee(s) responsible for implementation - Agriculture and Extension