PLANNING FOR HOUSING IN SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

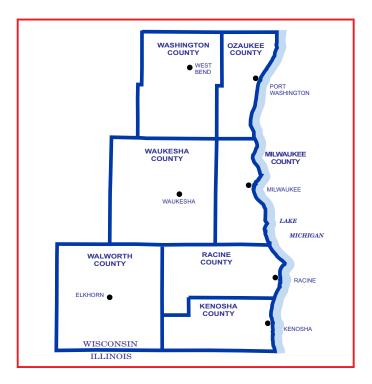
A plan for housing in southeastern Wisconsin is now being prepared. Work began in 2009 and will be finished in 2012. The plan should benefit people, communities, neighborhoods, businesses, and the economy.







WHAT AREA WILL BE COVERED BY THE HOUSING PLAN?



The housing plan is for the seven counties shown above, including all 146 cities, villages, and towns located in these counties:

- Kenosha County
- Milwaukee County
- Ozaukee County
- Racine County
- Walworth County
- Washington County
- Waukesha County

The seven counties together make up an area known as the Southeastern Wisconsin Region. This is an important part of our State, because the Region contains over two million people and about 1.2 million jobs. That is more than one-third of all of the people and all of the jobs in Wisconsin, so housing of many kinds is needed.

WHO IS DOING THE PLANNING WORK?

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) agreed to lead the planning for future housing. It prepares plans for the wise use of land, environmental resources, transportation, and other needs in the seven counties. The Regional Planning Commission is made up of three representatives from each of the counties.

A special committee of government representatives and housing experts is providing advice to the Regional Planning Commission and its staff, to help guide the housing plan. This advisory committee meets about six times a year. A separate Task Force also meets to represent the needs of minority and low-income people.



WHY IS A REGIONAL HOUSING PLAN NEEDED?



The housing advisory committee has a vision for the plan:

"Provide financially sustainable (stable) housing opportunities for persons of all income levels, age groups, and special needs throughout the entire Southeastern Wisconsin Region."

Housing problems that the vision helped to identify will be covered by the plan:

- Locations where there are jobs may not have housing that workers can afford.
- It will be hard to keep up the supply of lowercost housing paid for partly by the government.
- There is a need for housing that people with disabilities can use.
- Discrimination sometimes happens to people when they try to buy or rent housing.
- Minority and low-income people in the Region mostly live in the centers of our largest cities.
- There is a need to encourage home-building that is good for the environment.
- Falling values of homes, fewer home loans, people not being able to afford house payments, empty housing, and other problems are due to the bad economy.

YOUR INPUT IS APPRECIATED



Where can you get more information and share your opinion?

- The Regional Planning Commission website is at www.sewrpc.org/ SEWRPC/Housing.htm.
- Public meetings are held in every county of the Region.
- Announcements in newspapers, and sometimes articles, cover the housing plan.
- Presentations about the housing plan and other topics will gladly be given.
- Newsletters can be sent directly to you; simply get on the Commission's mailing list.
- Brochures that summarize progress can be requested.
- Regular contacts are made with central city, minority, and low-income groups, and others who are interested.

Who should you contact?

To offer a comment, get more information, request a meeting, or be added to a mailing list, contact the **Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission**.

Website: www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/Housing.htm

E-mail: bmckay@sewrpc.org Phone: (262) 547-6721

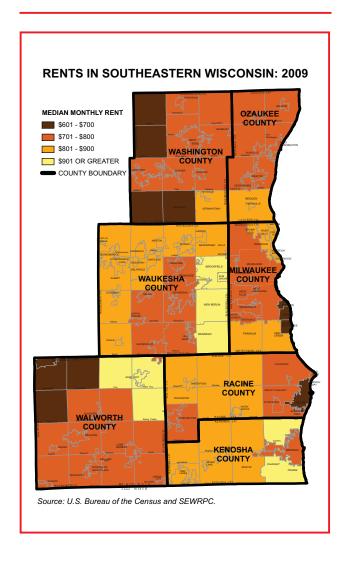
Fax: (262) 547-0721

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CHECK THIS OUT...



Over half of the rental units in the yellow areas cost more than \$900 a month. Several of these areas also have many low- and moderate-income jobs. Could the average worker afford to live and work in these areas?