

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 7, 2013

1:30 p.m.

SEWRPC Office Building
Commissioner's Conference Room
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive
Waukesha, WI 53187-1607

Present:

Excused:

Committee Members:

Daniel S. Schmidt, Chairman
Daniel W. Stoffel, Vice-Chairman
Charles L. Colman
William R. Drew
David W. Opitz
Robert W. Pitts
Nancy Russell
Linda J. Seemeyer
Peggy L. Shumway
David L. Stroik

Gilbert B. Bakke
José M. Delgado
David L. Eberle
John Rogers

Staff:

Kenneth R. Yunker
William J. Stauber
Debra A. D'Amico

Executive Director
Chief Land Use Planner
Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

Chairman Schmidt called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present. Mr. Yunker noted for the record that Commissioners Bakke, Delgado, Eberle, and Rogers had asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 13, 2013

Chairman Schmidt asked if there were any changes or additions to the March 13, 2013, meeting minutes.

On a motion by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Drew, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the meeting of March 13, 2013, were approved as published.

Mr. Yunker noted that there will not be an additional Planning and Research Committee meeting held on June 4, 2013, as tentatively announced, as there will not be a need to consider any modification of the Waukesha sanitary sewer service area. He then told the Committee that the June 4, 2013, meeting should be taken off and the meeting time released from their calendars.

CONSIDERATION OF SEWRPC TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 11 (5TH EDITION), *THE POPULATION OF SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN*

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Yunker to briefly review with the Committee SEWRPC Technical Report No. 11 (5th Edition), *The Population of Southeastern Wisconsin*. Mr. Yunker explained that the Commission updates the technical reports on the Region's population and economy following each ten-year Federal census. The new editions of the technical reports include new projections of population, households, and employment for the Region by county to the year 2050. Those projections will be used as a basis for updating and extending the regional land use plan, regional transportation plan, and other Commission plans to 2050.

He introduced Mr. William Stauber, Chief Land Use Planner, and requested that he provide an overview of SEWRPC Technical Report No. 11 on the population of Southeastern Wisconsin.

Mr. Stauber began a chapter-by-chapter review of Technical Report No. 11 with the Committee, highlighting major findings as he proceeded. Mr. Stauber noted that the regional population increased by about 88,800 persons, or 5 percent, from 1,931,200 persons in 2000 to 2,020,000 persons in 2010. The overall gain in population during the decade was due to a natural increase of about 109,200 persons, accompanied by a net out-migration of about 20,400 persons. Growth in the population was accompanied by a change in the age composition—including an increase in older age groups as a result of the aging of the large baby-boom population—and by increasing diversity in the racial/ethnic makeup of the population. The intermediate-growth projections presented in Technical Report No. 11—the projections expected to be used in updating the regional land use and transportation plans—indicate that the regional population would increase from 2,020,000 persons in 2010 to 2,354,000 persons in 2050—a gain of 334,000 persons, or 17 percent. The projections anticipate a modest increase in birth rates and a continued improvement in survival rates for the regional population, along with a modest net in-migration of people into the Region—to augment the labor force, as baby-boomers enter their retirement years.

The following items were addressed during the review of Technical Reports No. 11.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Opitz, Mr. Stauber stated that most of the existing and historic population information in the population report is derived from the 2010 U.S. Census and prior ten-year censuses.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Stoffel relative to the time period covered by the projections, Mr. Yunker said that the projections are intended to support the preparation of new long-range land use and transportation plans for the Region. Those plans will have a design year of 2050. He added that a 35-year planning horizon is beneficial in terms of maintaining consistency with Federal transportation planning requirements of maintaining a minimum 20 year plan time horizon.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Pitts, Mr. Stauber stated that the reports being considered are preliminary drafts that have been approved, with very minor amendment, by the Commission's Population and Employment Forecast Advisory Committee. Mr. Yunker then said that Commission staff is requesting the Planning and Research Committee to review and approve these reports and forward them to the full Commission for review at the June 19, 2013, Annual Commission Meeting.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Opitz, relative to the staff time involved in preparing the technical reports, Mr. Yunker stated that the staff would provide an estimate of the time involved in the meeting minutes.

[Secretary's Note: It is estimated that preparation of the draft reports required the following staff time: Chief Land Use Planner—eight man-months; Principal Specialist—six man-months; Demographic Consultant (University of Wisconsin-Madison, Applied Population Laboratory staff)—2 man-months.]

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Stoffel, Mr. Yunker indicated that there are no other resources that provide the level of detail that the Commission provides with respect to population, household, and employment forecast for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region. The Commission's county-level and small-area forecast data are needed for regional planning purposes and are also used by State agencies, county and local units of government, and private interests for a range of planning and analysis efforts.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Pitts, Mr. Stauber indicated that intensive work on the population and economic reports started in September of 2012. Mr. Yunker noted that, while the Federal census was conducted in spring of 2010, the resulting census data, along with information on births and deaths required for the population projections, were not available until much later.

There being no further questions or discussion, on a motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mr. Pitts, and carried unanimously, Technical Report No. 11 (5th Edition), *The Population of Southeastern Wisconsin* was approved.

CONSIDERATION OF SEWRPC TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 10 (5TH EDITION), *THE ECONOMY OF SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN*

At the request of Chairman Schmidt, Mr. Stauber led the Committee in a chapter-by-chapter review of SEWRPC Technical Report No 10 (5th Edition), *The Economy of Southeastern Wisconsin*. Mr. Stauber noted that the number of jobs in the Region fluctuated over the last decade—decreasing during the early 2000s, increasing through the mid-2000s, and decreasing during the steep economic downturn after 2007. The number of jobs in the Region stood at 1,176,600 in 2010, about 33,200 jobs less than in 2000. Also, during that decade, there was a continuation of the long-term shift in the regional economy from manufacturing to service employment. The intermediate-growth projections presented in Technical Report No. 10 anticipate that employment in the Region would increase from 1,176,600 jobs in 2010 to 1,386,900 jobs in 2050, an increase of 210,300 jobs or 18 percent. Projected year 2050 total employment is 12 percent higher than the previous all-time high of 1,238,600 jobs that occurred in 2007, prior to the major recession. The new projections indicate a continued shift from manufacturing to service jobs, with manufacturing jobs projected to account for 9 percent of all jobs in the Region in 2050, compared to 13 percent in 2010, 20 percent in 1990, and 30 percent in 1970.

Mr. Yunker indicated that the population and employment projections as set forth in Technical Reports No. 10 and 11 were consistent with each other, noting that the future labor force associated with the projected population would be sufficient to accommodate the projected number of jobs in the Region. He noted that the relationship between the projected population and labor force and projected employment is specifically addressed near the end of Chapter III of Technical Report No. 10.

Ms. Russell noted that the text on Page II-1 of Chapter II defines the labor force in terms of residents who are 16 years of age and over and are either employed or temporarily unemployed. She asked why the age of 16 years is used in defining the labor force. Mr. Yunker responded that the age of 16 is used by the U.S. Census Bureau and virtually all other statistical reporting agencies in defining and quantifying the labor force. He

noted that, defined in this manner, the labor force includes many teenagers who are employed at part-time jobs.

General discussion also occurred regarding the factors which may affect participation in the labor force, including families needing two incomes to meet their expenses.

There being no further questions or discussion, on a motion by Ms. Russell, seconded by Ms. Seemeyer, and carried unanimously, the Technical Report No. 10 (5th Edition), *The Economy of Southeastern Wisconsin* was approved.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Yunker if there was any correspondence or announcements. Mr. Yunker reported that there was no correspondence, and that there were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on a motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mr. Stoffel, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Yunker
Deputy Secretary