

Attachment 1

**PROPOSED REPORT: HOW COMMISSION PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS  
WOULD BENEFIT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POPULATIONS**

**INTRO**

An overarching consideration during VISION 2050 was that the benefits and impacts of investments in the Region's land and transportation system should be shared fairly and equitably among all groups of people. The plan recognized that the best way to ensure the benefits and impacts are shared in such a manner is to increase racial and economic integration throughout the Region. Stemming from a suggestion by the City of Milwaukee's Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee, the Commission staff is proposing to prepare a report that reviews the Commission's various plans and key recommendations from those plans that would benefit the Region's environmental justice populations and help to increase racial and economic integration. The approach for this report is described below.

**DEFINING THE PROBLEM**

The report would begin by defining the overarching problem facing the Region. During VISION 2050, the Commission prepared a report entitled "A Comparison of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Area to Its Peers," which demonstrated strong evidence of the existing disparities between whites and minorities in the Milwaukee metro area. The relevant conclusions and analyses from this and other reports, including reports prepared by other individuals or organizations, would provide a basis for defining the problem. This section of the proposed report would incorporate some of the extensive equity and socioeconomic analyses conducted for the Commission's major planning efforts, including VISION 2050, the Regional Housing Plan, and the Regional Water Supply Plan. This section would also incorporate findings from past and current efforts to study or address the problem. As examples, UWM Professor Marc Levine, the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, and the Public Policy Forum have all conducted research in this area. Staff would reach out to these relevant individuals and groups in an effort to collaborate and obtain the most current information.

## **ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE COMMISSION'S PLANNING EFFORTS**

The majority of the report would document the key recommendations from the Commission's plans that would benefit the Region's environmental justice populations and help to increase racial and economic integration. Staff's initial intent is to organize these recommendations according to the relevant issues that the Commission addresses in its planning efforts. It is important to acknowledge that the Commission, as an infrastructure planning agency, has not made recommendations addressing *all* facets of this complex problem. However, within the areas under the Commission's purview, there are numerous recommendations that would contribute to addressing the problem if implemented. In particular, VISION 2050 and the Regional Housing Plan make strong recommendations that would benefit environmental justice populations. An initial list of the primary issues to be covered is below.

- **Transportation**
- **Housing**
- **Water and Air Quality**
- **Access to Jobs**
- **Access to Community Amenities**