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(Sample Photo on Pages 4, 5)
THE CITIZENS' ROLE

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's program is based on the premise that citizen participation is an essential part of any planning effort. It is not an overstatement to say that the lack of citizen participation can render any planning effort a waste of time and public funds.

What, then, is the role of the citizen in planning? We might begin by examining the function of the planning agency.

It is the planning agency's responsibility to provide the local citizens, through its published reports and advisory committees as well as through public hearings, with the facts about such matters as land and water use, economic and population growth, travel demand, soil capabilities and the like, and with a professional assessment of their effect upon community development, so that better decisions concerning the community's development can be made. It is then the citizen's responsibility to study these facts and to ask questions about them if necessary, to participate in the discussions and decisions concerning future development, and finally and most importantly to aid in implementing the plan - the end which justifies and gives validity to the whole planning process.

Nearly 120 citizens and technicians are already participating actively in eleven study-advisory committees and subcommittees, created as an integral part of the SEWRPC work program. Additional study-advisory committees will be formed as work on the regional land use-transportation planning program proceeds. The success of the Commission's work program will depend to a considerable extent upon how well these committees perform their function of promoting active citizen participation in the planning work.

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QUESTION BOX

WHY IS PERSONAL INFORMATION NECESSARY TO INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING?

The purpose of the Regional Land Use - Transportation Study is to develop a workable plan to guide the staged development of transportation facilities to serve the evolving region. In order to accomplish this, the transportation facilities which will be needed for the region in 5, 10, 15 and 20 or more years will need to be established. To make a valid projection, information must be obtained which can be used to determine what conditions created the existing travel demands.

The total travel in the region is the composite of thousands of individual decisions. Where people live and the characteristics of their home and its setting determine the number and kind of trips they make -- this is why it is necessary to obtain relatively personal information for transportation planning. Questions like "Where are you going and why?" are a starting point. Questions about occupation, family income, car ownership, and housing, for example, are equally important because they establish the trip-making habits that underlie the demand for highways and bus routes.

Such information is, however, completely confidential and is used only for planning purposes; the names of individuals are not recorded; indeed, the analysis of travel demand considers group behavior rather than individual behavior. Nevertheless, it is this information, collected on a sample basis and projected to the universe, that gives the planner the needed data to quantitatively and qualitatively plot the transportation needs of the region for the next twenty years.

ASCE Conference (continued)

Better water management, Reclamation of water, Saline water conversion, Atmospheric water sources, and Effects of water movement. Five other national organizations will cooperate in the four day session. For additional information write to: Mr. Donald Roethig, Room S16, Municipal Building, Milwaukee 2, Wisconsin.
CITY OF FRANKLIN REJOINS SEWRPC

The Commission is pleased to announce that the City of Franklin has elected to rejoin the Commission as an active, participating member. The re-entry request resolution was passed by the Franklin City Council on February 19, and approved by the Commission at its March 7 meeting.

In his letter of acknowledgment to the City of Franklin, Mr. Berteau stressed that it was the Commission's function to serve and assist local units of government in providing for orderly and economic development in the region. Mr. Donald K. Holland, City Engineer of the City of Franklin, has been appointed to the Technical Coordinating and Advisory Committee of the Regional Land Use-Transportation Study. The committee was organized in February to advise the planning study staff on technical methods and procedures; to recommend technical standards and to serve as a clearing house for the assembly and evaluation of data. The City of Franklin has participated as an unofficial member of the Root River Watershed Committee since its organization on August 17, 1962, and has contributed much valuable assistance in the design of a prospectus for a comprehensive Root River Watershed planning program. This program is presently being considered by the Commission.

ON CONFERENCES

Sixth Annual State Planning Conference Held

"Transportation - Key to Growth" was the theme of the sixth annual state planning conference held at the Hotel Northland in Green Bay, March 29 and 30, 1963. More than two hundred people attended the conference, which was co-sponsored by the Association of Wisconsin Planners and the Wisconsin Section, Western Great Lakes Chapter of the American Institute of Planners. All the major phases of transportation were discussed. Special sessions were held on the roles of the highway, mass transit, truck, rail, and air transportation, and waterfront development.

The keynote address at the Conference was given by Senator Gaylord Nelson. Nelson, speaking on the intergovernmental relationships involved in transportation planning, called for "a coordinated nation-wide program for transportation involving all levels of government and all the various private businesses involved". Nelson said the source of the transportation problem was that "Our big sprawling country suddenly has become a mature industrial nation. Its spiraling growth is occurring mostly in relatively small areas, not in the broad prairies or the far-off mountains, but in cities which we thought were crowded when we were children and which suddenly have grown old. At the same time, because modern life makes it necessary and modern inventions make it possible, people and goods are moving about as never before". Nelson warned that this mounting traffic problem could destroy the major cities of America.

ASCE Conference

The American Society of Civil Engineers will hold its 2nd Water Resources Engineering Conference at the Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on May 13-17, 1963. All papers presented at the conference will be built around the theme water resources. Nine of the society's 14 technical divisions will participate in the conference, providing a real opportunity for concentrated study of this important subject. Five basic areas to be covered will include:

continued.....
Here is a sample of an aerial photograph at a scale of 1 inch = 400 feet. Delivery of photographs to the SEWRPC should commence on May 1, and under the terms of the contract will be completed by July 15, 1963.

All negatives will then become the property of the SEWRPC and will be made available at the cost of reproduction to the communities throughout the region for use in their planning programs.
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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The 1963 SEWRPC Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 6, 1963, at 2:00 P.M. in the Commission offices, Old Courthouse, in Waukesha, Wisconsin. The meeting is open to the public. An Agenda will be furnished in advance upon request.
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WORTH REPEATING

"...Each person and agency does some planning in a region. A regional planning agency functions in this decision making setting as a specialized agency with professional personnel assembled to assist, coordinate and improve the complex decision making process in the region. As planning must involve people in the making of decisions, the importance of active citizen participation cannot be over-emphasized."

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