

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

1:30 p.m.

Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Commissioners' Conference Room
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive
Waukesha, WI 53187

Meeting Occurred Virtually via Video and Telephone Conference

Present:

Excused:

Commissioners:

Natalia Minkel-Dumit, Committee Chair	Priscilla Coggs-Jones
Amy Maurer, Committee Vice Chair	Charles Colman
Paul Decker	Issac Rowlett
John Holloway	
Dewayne Johnson	
Katrina Hanson	
Brian Holt	
Jeffrey Schleif	
Adam Jaramillo	
Robert Pitts	
David Stroik	
Donald Trottier	
Michael Crowley	
Trevor Jung	
Tom Kramer	
Eric Stelter	

Staff:

Stephanie Hacker	Executive Director
Benjamin McKay	Deputy Director
Eric Lynde	Special Projects Director
Rob Merry	Chief Surveyor
Sam Mercier	Senior Transportation Planner
Bryan Walter	Senior Land Use Planner
Gideon Oduro	Data Analyst

Planning and Research Committee Meeting
February 3, 2026

ROLL CALL

Chair Crowley called the Planning and Research Committee meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present. Chair Crowley announced Natalia Minkel-Dumit will assume the Chair of the Planning and Research Committee and Amy Maurer will assume Vice Chair. He then turned over the next agenda item to Ms. Minkel-Dumit.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2025, MEETING

Ms. Minkel-Dumit asked if there were any changes or additions to the November 4, 2025, meeting minutes. There were none.

On a motion by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Stroik, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the November 4, 2025, Planning and Research Committee Meeting were approved.

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMISSION PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS EXPLORER

Ms. Minkel-Dumit asked Chief Surveyor Robert Merry to present the Commission projects and publications explorer. Mr. Merry stated that the Commission staff provides county surveyor services to six Counties within Southeastern Wisconsin and would be happy to answer any questions about surveying or GIS systems. He then explained that in January of 2025 staff began working on creating a database of current Commission work efforts to visualize them in a spatial context and better serve communities in the Region. Mr. Merry then stated the Projects and Publication Explorer launched on January 14, 2026, and provided a demonstration.

The following questions and comments were made during the review.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Holloway, Mr. Merry stated that projects can be viewed by local government; however, staff can explore ways to view projects by County.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Schleif, Mr. Merry stated the Commission does not provide County Surveyor services to Washington County. He added that the Commission has started providing County Surveyor services to Racine County.

There were no further questions or comments. Mr. Crowley congratulated staff on the effort.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF YEAR 2060 POPULATION, HOUSEHOLD, AND EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

Ms. Minkel-Dumit announced that Mr. Decker has joined the meeting virtually and asked Mr. McKay to review the year 2060 population, household, and employment projections that have been developed by Commission staff. Mr. McKay stated that the Committee members received a memo explaining the methodology used to develop the projections in their meeting packets, adding that data analyst Gideon Oduro, Commission staff data analyst, is also present and may help answer questions regarding the methodology used to develop the projections.

Mr. McKay then reviewed the projections and highlighted their importance for regional, county, and local government planning efforts. Mr. McKay explained that staff is projecting more moderate population growth for the year 2060 than was forecast for the year 2050 as set forth in VISION 2050. He stated the population of the Region is forecast to be about 2.4 million people under VISION 2050 and the year 2060

Planning and Research Committee Meeting
February 3, 2026

intermediate projection is about 2.265 residents. Mr. McKay then explained that the intermediate household and employment projections will stay on a similar course to the 2050 forecasts. He explained this is due to a continued projected decline in household size and a projected increase in labor force participation of some age cohorts.

The following questions and comments were made during the review.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Pitts, Mr. McKay stated that the Commission utilizes the cohort component method to develop the projections, which is a widely used methodology.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Holt, Mr. McKay explained that the 2050 forecasts did not consider constraints on household income.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Minkel-Dumit, Mr. McKay stated discrepancies between the Commission's population projections and the recently released Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) projections were most likely a result of different projection base years and the use of the modified Hamilton-Perry method by the DOA, which combines the effects of mortality and migration into one ratio. Mr. McKay then explained that previous Commission and DOA projections were generally in alignment.

In response to an inquiry made by Mr. Johnson, Mr. McKay stated the Lightcast Economic Modeling program, access to which is provided through an agreement with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, can provide more detailed economic projections over a shorter projection period.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Pitts, Mr. McKay stated the Commission develops detailed technical reports presenting background data and methodologies for both the population and household projections and the employment projections. He stated that those reports are under preparation and will be widely distributed and provided to each Commissioner.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Kramer, Mr. McKay acknowledged the recent robust job growth in the Region and stated that the year 2060 projection would be slightly above the course of the year 2050 forecast.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Decker, Mr. McKay stated AI was not incorporated into the economic projections and stated there may be more information in the future on the impact of AI on the economy. He added that planning assumptions, such as number of industrial jobs that could be accommodated per acre, have been adjusted in the past.

There being no further questions or comments on a motion by Mr. Jung, seconded by Mr. Schleif, the year 2060 population, household, and employment projections were unanimously approved.

OVERVIEW OF THE VISION 2060 PLANNING PROCESS

Ms. Minkel-Dumit introduced Special Projects Director Eric Lynde, Senior Land Use Planner Mr. Walter, and Senior Transportation Planner Mr. Mercier. Mr. Lynde asked Mr. Walter and Mr. Mercier to provide an overview of the VISION 2060 planning process.

Mr. Walter explained VISION 2060 is the next major update to the Region's long-range land use and transportation plan, and the overview would focus on plan structure, communication approach, and the framework for presenting recommendations. Mr. Walter stated that VISION 2060 will build off VISION 2050 and explained the recommendations are intended to assist local officials in making informed decisions

Planning and Research Committee Meeting
February 3, 2026

about developmental patterns, infrastructure, and environmental stewardship. He added staff anticipates VISION 2060 will be adopted by the Commission in June 2028.

Mr. Mercier explained the Commission staff have started to rethink how to structure the plan around the entry point to the important material, audiences, and story. Mr. Mercier stated VISION 2050 is presented in three volumes, with the entry point being the third volume. VISION 2060 will be structured in a hierarchal manner to appeal to the various audiences. The order will be the core plan, technical reports that present data and analyses, and research reports that will inform the plan update. Commission staff may also prepare reports after the plan is adopted related to plan implementation. He stated the plan will use visuals, plain language, and further integrate land use and transportation recommendations.

Mr. Walter explained the plan will use place-based recommendations, termed Community Contexts. The Community Contexts are intended to organize recommendations by level of development from rural to urban. He then stated the core plan will follow a three-part narrative structure from past, present, to future.

The following questions and comments were made during the overview.

In response to an inquiry from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Walter explained that meeting with all the communities in the Region with public sanitary sewer service is one of the early steps in the planning process. Community development patterns, where development is likely to will occur, and when development will likely occur is discussed. He stated this input will be factored into the plan.

In response to an inquiry from Mr. Kramer, Mr. McKay stated that local comprehensive plans will be incorporated into the Racine County comprehensive plan update.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Holloway, Mr. Walter and Mr. Mercier stated organizing the plan around various Community Contexts will help capture sense of community in different areas of the Region.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Decker, Mr. Walter stated that topics such as advances in technology will be addressed by the research reports and may inform plan recommendations.

Mr. Lynde summarized input from the first VISION 2060 Advisory Committee meeting and explained that Mr. Walter and Mr. Mercier made the meeting engaging for all involved.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Pitts, Mr. Lynde stated autonomous vehicles are the topic of a research report, which will inform plan recommendations.

Mr. Pitts thanked staff for their presentation.

NEXT MEETING

Ms. Minkel-Dumit stated that the next meeting of the Planning and Research Committee is scheduled for May 5, 2026.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Minkel-Dumit announced there were no announcements from staff.

Mr. Crowley announced the next full Commission meeting is scheduled for March 4th and will be held at a location in Racine County.

Planning and Research Committee Meeting
February 3, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Hacker
Executive Director

SH/BRM/ko
#280783