

# ANNUAL

# REPORT



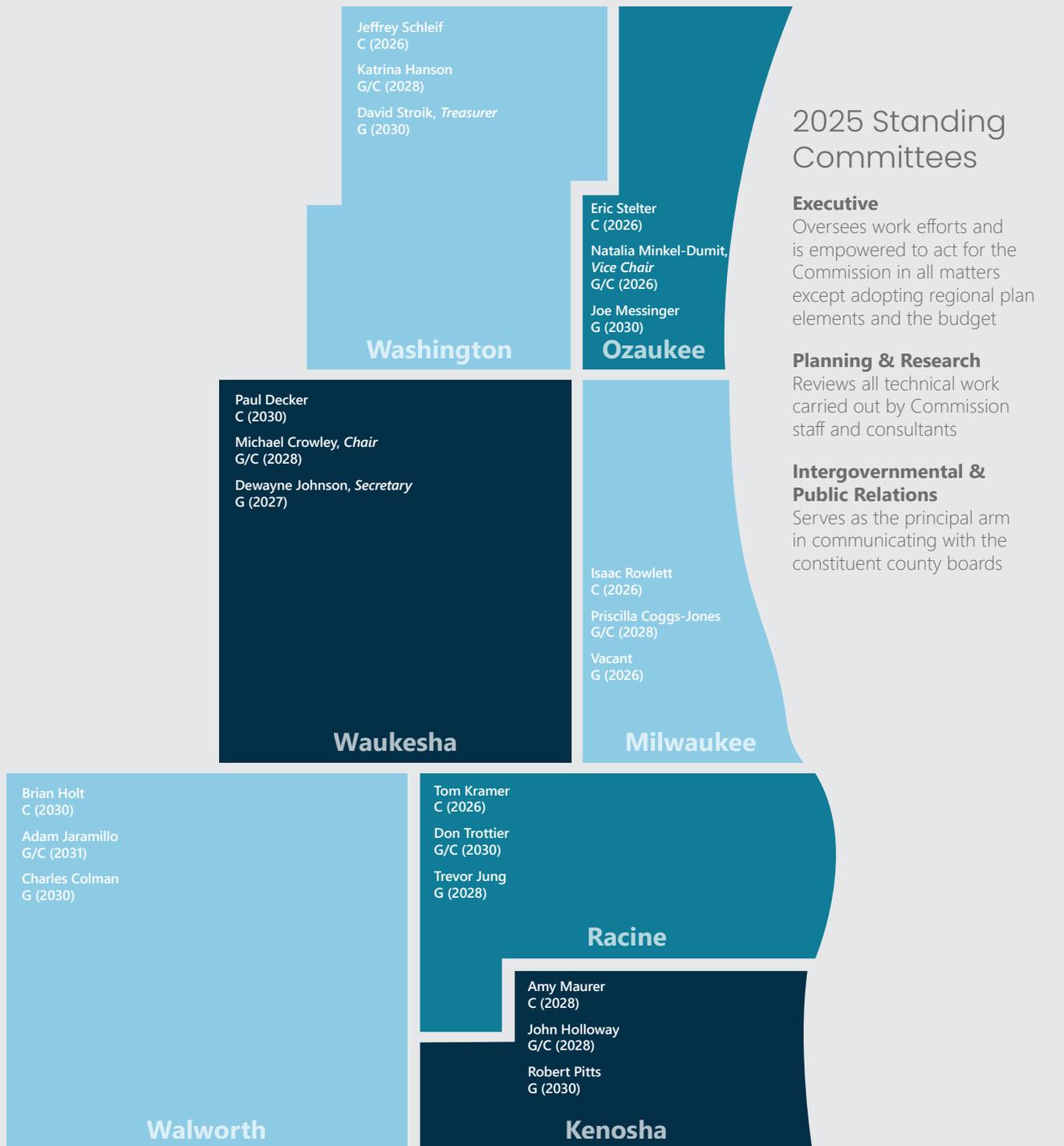
# 2025

# Commissioners and Committees in 2025\*

Under State law, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is governed by 21 Commissioners (three from each county):

- C Appointed by county board or appointed by county executive and confirmed by county board
- G/C Appointed by Governor from a county-supplied list of candidates
- G Appointed directly by Governor

Commissioners are appointed to six-year terms and can serve multiple terms. Term end dates are shown in parentheses.



## 2025 Standing Committees

### Executive

Oversees work efforts and is empowered to act for the Commission in all matters except adopting regional plan elements and the budget

### Planning & Research

Reviews all technical work carried out by Commission staff and consultants

### Intergovernmental & Public Relations

Serves as the principal arm in communicating with the constituent county boards

\*As of December 31, 2025

## 2025 Standing Committees\*

### **Executive Committee**

Michael Crowley, *Chair*  
Natalia Minkel-Dumit, *Vice Chair*  
Charles Colman  
Brian Holt  
Dewayne Johnson  
Trevor Jung  
Robert Pitts  
Isaac Rowlett  
David Stroik

### **Planning and Research Committee**

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

### **Intergovernmental and Public Relations Committee**

Michael Crowley, *Chair*  
Paul Decker  
Brian Holt  
Tom Kramer  
Amy Maurer  
Isaac Rowlett  
Jeffrey Schleif  
Eric Stelter  
David Stroik

# Message from the Chair

## Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Dear Southeastern Wisconsin,

I am pleased to present you with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission 2025 Annual Report. Here, we share a synopsis of the diligent work performed by our agency and staff over the last year. In 2025, we stayed committed to our mission: to serve as a steady source of clarity, providing trusted expertise to help communities plan for a thriving Region.

Pursuant to §66.0309(8)(b), “the regional planning commission shall make an annual report of its activities to the legislative bodies of the local governmental units within the region.” This report reflects on the agency’s efforts during its 65th anniversary year, a historic milestone for the Commission. From beginning a major update to the Region’s long-range land use and transportation plan, VISION 2050, to the Region’s Natural Areas Plan Update, Commission staff advanced studies that provide thoughtful guidance to regional issues and inform our quality of life. Please visit [www.sewrpc.org](http://www.sewrpc.org) for an in-depth look at our latest work efforts.

I offer gratitude for your continued partnership. For 65 years, we have remained focused on addressing issues of regional consequence. We look forward to continuing our service in cooperation with county and local governments, State and Federal agencies, and our many other valued partners to move our Region forward together.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Crowley  
Chair

# About Us

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is the official areawide advisory planning agency for Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha Counties, and the metropolitan planning organization for the Region. The Commission was established in 1960 under Section 66.0309 of the Wisconsin Statutes in response to petitions submitted by each of the seven Southeastern Wisconsin counties. It is the largest of the nine regional planning commissions in Wisconsin in terms of staff, budget, and population served.

The Commission performs three basic functions to address regional issues:

- ▶ Provide basic regional data and analyses to Federal agencies, State agencies, and entities throughout the Region
- ▶ Develop a framework of long-range areawide plans for the physical development of the Region, per State and Federal requirements
- ▶ Coordinate day-to-day planning activities in the Region

To see Commission budget and funding information, visit [www.sewrpc.org/Budget-and-Funding](http://www.sewrpc.org/Budget-and-Funding).

## Mission & Vision



### Mission Statement

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission serves as a steady source of clarity, providing trusted expertise to help communities plan for a thriving region.



### Vision Statement

Through collaborative regional planning, Southeastern Wisconsin will be a connected and thriving community.

## A Regional Approach

The Commission's role is to help solve problems and focus regional attention on key issues of regional consequence, providing objective information to aid the Region's decision-makers. We focus on addressing issues that transcend the political boundaries and fiscal capabilities of individual communities. Regional planning provides a meaningful technical approach to the proper planning and design of public works systems, such as: parks and public spaces, transportation (all modes and roads), utility coordination, and water supply and wastewater infrastructure.

A regional approach is also essential for addressing environmental issues, including: air, soil, and water pollution, drought and flooding, land and water use changes, and natural resource deterioration.

# Region Overview\*

Local Governments: **29** Cities | **67** Villages | **50** Towns

Area: **2,689** Square Miles | **5%** of State

Population: **2.08** Million | **34%** of State

Employment: **1.34** Million Jobs | **35%** of State

Wealth: **\$336.8** Billion Equalized Valuation | **34%** of State

*\*Sources: Wisconsin Department of Administration January 1, 2025 Final Population Estimates; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis 2023 Employment Data; Wisconsin Department of Revenue Tax Year 2025 Equalized Value.*

## MPO Role

The Commission is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Southeastern Wisconsin. Through this role, we ensure that all transportation planning and programming requirements are met through a comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing planning process.

Our service as the MPO ensures that the Region is continuously eligible for federal highway and transit funds. We are also specifically responsible for working cooperatively to select transportation projects for federal funding directly allocated to the Milwaukee urbanized area.

## Statewide Transportation Planning Conference



### 2025 Spotlight

Commission staff hosted the 2025 Wisconsin Transportation Planning Conference in September, which brought together the state's Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Planning Commissions with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

Transportation planning professionals from across Wisconsin attended the three-day conference held in Kenosha and Racine to hear from numerous speakers on the latest trends in transportation, tour the Kenosha Innovation Center, and ride The Badger autonomous electric shuttle bus at Gateway Technical College.

# Regional Planning

The Commission, as the areawide planning agency for Southeastern Wisconsin, is responsible for making and adopting a master plan for the physical development of the Region, including the use of land and supporting transportation and utility facilities. To accomplish this, the Commission prepares individual plan elements that together comprise the Region's comprehensive plan.

4

**Each regional plan element in this section is intended to address an identified areawide developmental or environmental problem. The individual elements are coordinated through an areawide land use and transportation plan, which is currently presented in VISION 2050.**

[www.sewrpc.org/VISION-2050](http://www.sewrpc.org/VISION-2050)



VISION 2050 recommends a long-range vision for land use and transportation in the seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region. The plan makes recommendations to local and State government to shape and guide land use development and transportation improvement, including public transit, arterial streets and highways, freight, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities, to the year 2050.



## Economic Development Strategy

[www.sewrpc.org/Economic-Development-Strategy](http://www.sewrpc.org/Economic-Development-Strategy)

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for Southeastern Wisconsin is a strategy-driven plan for regional economic development prepared collaboratively with the Milwaukee 7 Regional Economic Development Partnership (M7). It provides a strategic framework for economic development in the Region.

In 2025, Commission staff, in collaboration with M7, continued to support implementation of the current CEDS. At the end of 2025, staff began planning for development of a new CEDS starting in 2026. Preparing a new CEDS every five years ensures that communities and organizations within the Region qualify for U.S. Economic Development Administration funding targeted at economically distressed areas.



## Food System

[www.sewrpc.org/Food-System](http://www.sewrpc.org/Food-System)

The Regional Food System Plan is addressing the food system from a regional perspective, focused on improving access to healthy foods for residents of Southeastern Wisconsin.

In 2025, Commission staff continued to compile background information for the plan and began transitioning plan documents into an online interactive web explorer. The streamlined plan will place greater emphasis on clear and actionable recommendations that are informed by the plan materials presented on the web explorer.



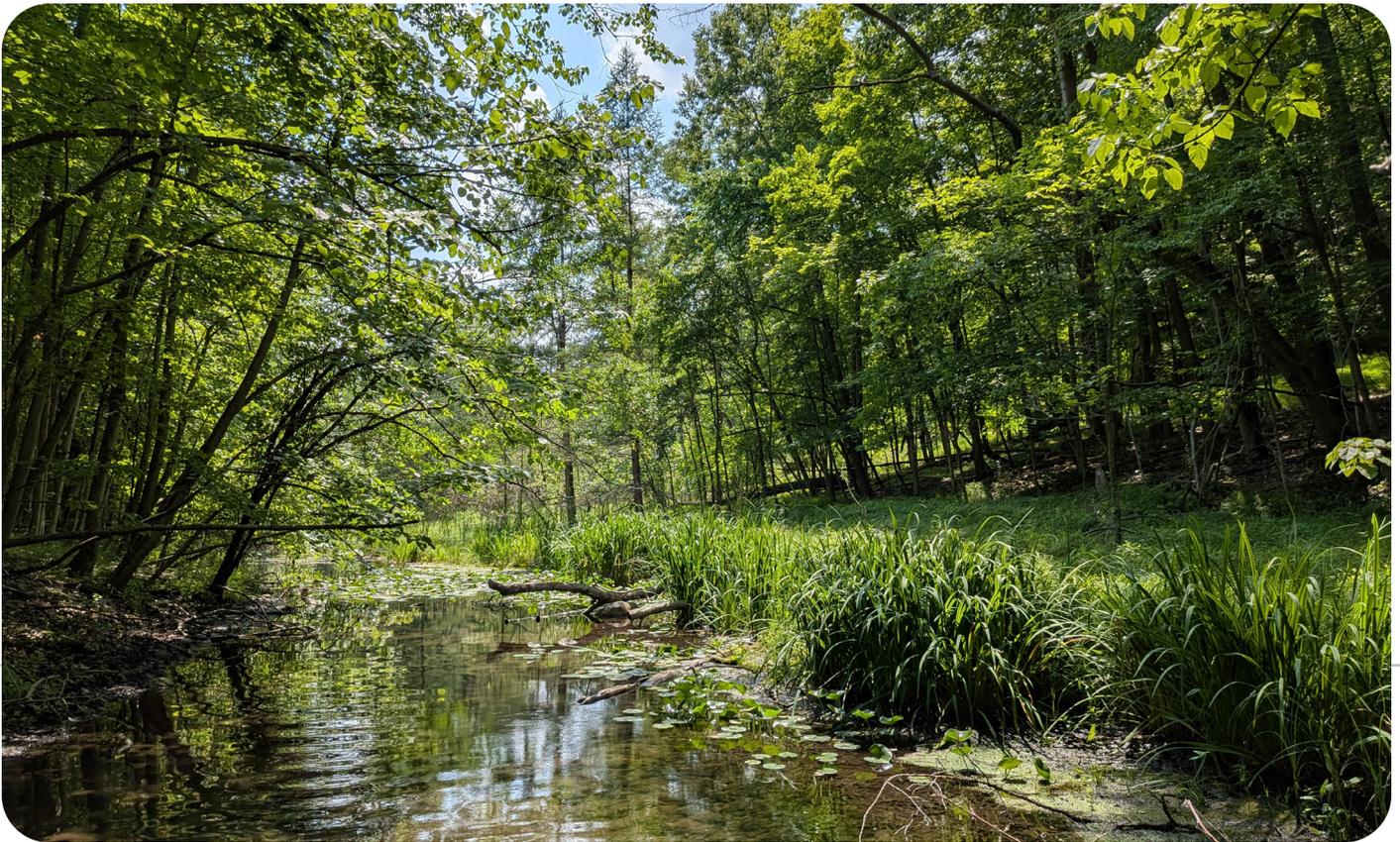
## Housing

[www.sewrpc.org/Housing](http://www.sewrpc.org/Housing)

The Regional Housing Plan contains 50 recommendations to support decent and affordable housing for all residents of Southeastern Wisconsin.

In 2025, activities supporting Regional Housing Plan implementation included:

- ▶ Commission staff continued to serve on the Walworth County Workforce Housing Strategy Task Force and the Kenosha County Housing Task Force. The Task Forces are focused on encouraging the development of attainable housing within their respective counties.
- ▶ In addition to presentations made to the Task Forces, Commission staff made presentations to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Racine County Intergovernmental Cooperation Council.



## Natural Areas

[www.sewrpc.org/Natural-Areas](http://www.sewrpc.org/Natural-Areas)

The Regional Natural Areas Plan seeks to identify and protect what remains of the Region's landscape as it existed pre-European settlement and identifies other areas vital to maintaining endangered, threatened, and rare plant and animal species.

In 2025, Commission staff completed an update of the Regional Natural Areas Plan that included development of a publicly accessible interactive webtool that provides access to data and site-level information. The update was adopted by the Full Commission and final publication is set for 2026.

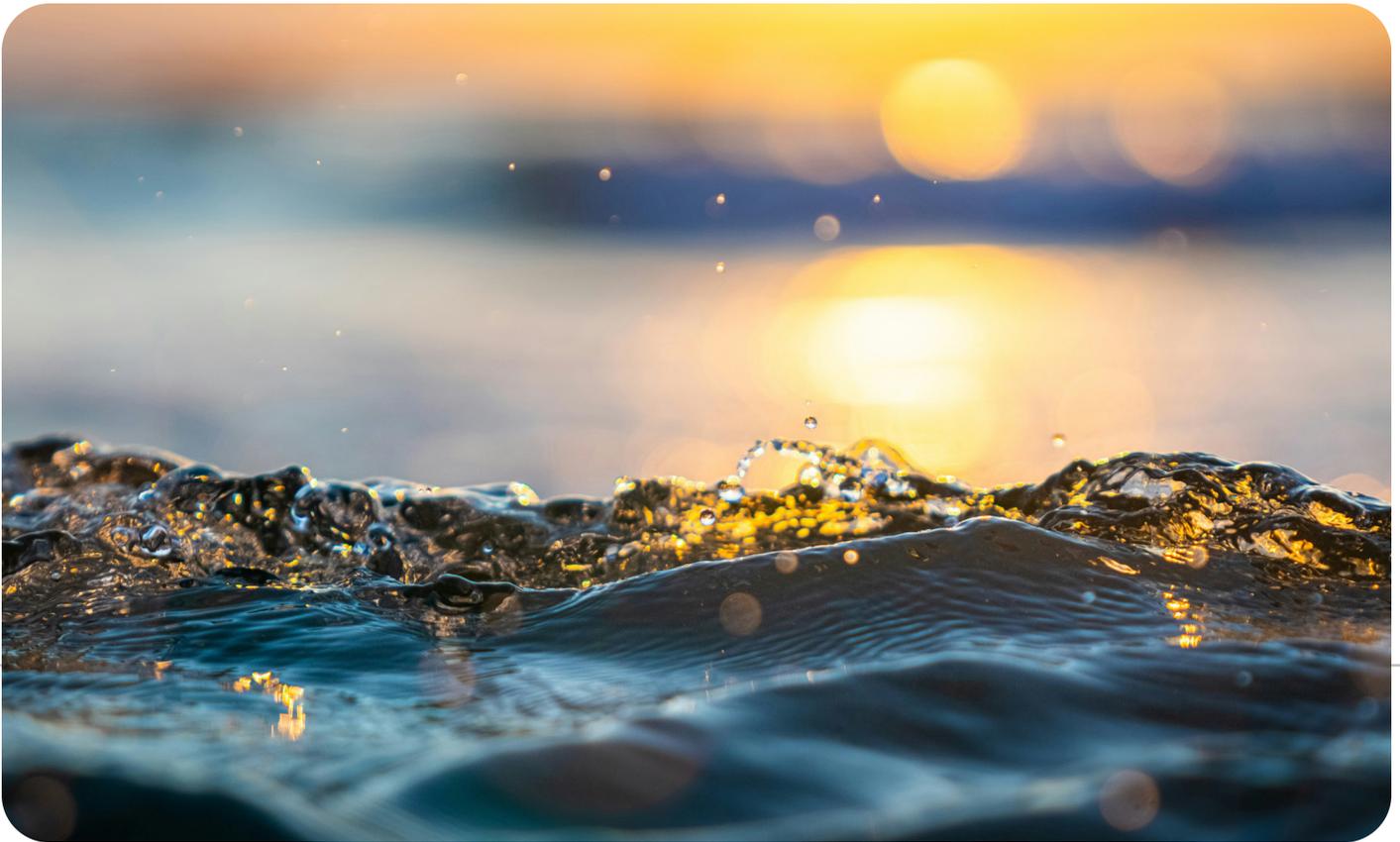


## Parks & Open Space

[www.sewrpc.org/Regional-Park-and-Open-Space](http://www.sewrpc.org/Regional-Park-and-Open-Space)

The Commission adopted the Regional Park and Open Space Plan in 1977. The plan recommends preserving environmentally significant open space lands and providing sites and facilities for major resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities throughout the Region. Over time, the plan has been amended on a county-by-county basis, with Commission staff assisting in most county plan updates. The Commission adopts these county plan updates as amendments to the Regional Park and Open Space Plan.

In 2025, Commission staff assisted the Village of Caledonia with an update of its park and open space plan, and initiated work on updates of the City of Brookfield and City of Whitewater park plans.



### Water Quality

[www.sewrpc.org/Water-Quality](http://www.sewrpc.org/Water-Quality)

The Regional Water Quality Management Plan provides for sound watershed planning and preservation and was designed to make the Region's waters "fishable and swimmable" to the extent practical. In 2025, the Commission began work on a Prospectus to update the plan and held initial meetings to develop a scope, schedule, and budget for the project.

In addition, a wastewater facility plan review was completed for the Fox River Commission (Waukesha County). Wastewater facility plan technical support was provided to the City of Lake Geneva (Walworth County), Village of Germantown (Washington County), and the Village of Hartland (Waukesha County).



### Water Supply

[www.sewrpc.org/Water-Supply](http://www.sewrpc.org/Water-Supply)

The Regional Water Supply Plan identifies appropriate sources of water supply to meet projected water demands in Southeastern Wisconsin by 2035.

In 2025, Commission staff coordinated with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on the Village of Menomonee Falls sanitary sewer area boundary in relation to the water supply service area boundary.

## Regional Planning **Featured Projects**

8





## VISION 2050

[www.sewrpc.org/VISION-2050](http://www.sewrpc.org/VISION-2050)

In 2025, Commission staff incorporated the analyses and changes from the 2024 Review and Update of VISION 2050 into the Third Edition of the VISION 2050 plan report. The report presents the long-range land use and transportation plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, providing a framework to guide regional land use and transportation implementation efforts. The Commission also adopted a minor amendment to the plan that was requested by Waukesha County. In addition, staff began planning efforts for VISION 2060, the next major regional plan update that will succeed VISION 2050. This work included updating various land use and transportation inventories and preparing population and economic forecasts.



## Chloride Study

[www.sewrpc.org/Chloride-Study](http://www.sewrpc.org/Chloride-Study)

The Chloride Impact Study is the foremost comprehensive study undertaken to identify significant sources and magnitudes of chloride (salt) in the Region's surface water and groundwater resources.

In 2025, Commission staff completed Technical Report No. 65, *Mass Balance Analysis for Chloride*, and draft Technical Report No. 63, *Chloride Conditions and Trends*. Three Technical Advisory Committee meetings were held in 2025 to review draft chapters from these two reports. Work continued on Technical Report No. 66, *State of the Art for Chloride Management*.

Work also began on Planning Report No. 57, which will summarize work in the technical reports, look at future conditions and alternative scenarios to minimize chloride to the environment, and provide recommendations.



## Transportation Improvement Program

[www.sewrpc.org/TIP](http://www.sewrpc.org/TIP)

The TIP is a listing of all arterial highway, public transit, and other transportation improvement projects proposed to be carried out over a four-year period.

The current 2025-2028 TIP, adopted in 2024, includes all Federally funded highway, transit, and bicycle/pedestrian projects proposed to be carried out by State and local governments over the next four years in Southeastern Wisconsin. Transportation projects proposed to be funded with FHWA and FTA funding must be listed in the TIP.

In 2025, the 2025-2028 TIP was amended on eight occasions and administratively modified on seven occasions, involving the addition of 90 projects and changes to 260 projects. At the end of 2025, the TIP included 597 projects, as amended through 2025, representing a total potential investment of \$4.0 billion.

# Local Planning

Since its inception in 1960, the Commission has assisted county and local governments with a wide range of plans and studies related to land use, parks, transportation, natural resources, and other important topics.

The Commission's various local planning assistance promotes coordination between regional and local plans, helps county and local governments implement plans, and encourages the sound physical development of the Region. Services are available to all county and local governments that participate in and financially support the regional planning program.



## Comprehensive Planning

[www.sewrpc.org/Comprehensive-Planning](http://www.sewrpc.org/Comprehensive-Planning)

The Commission has been helping counties and communities prepare and update comprehensive plans since the State passed the "Smart Growth" law in 1999.

During 2025, Commission staff worked with the City of Waukesha to complete an update of its comprehensive plan, and continued assisting Kenosha County, Racine County, and the Villages of Caledonia, Salem Lakes, and Somers with updates of their comprehensive plans.



## Farmland Preservation Planning

[www.sewrpc.org/Farmland-Preservation-Planning](http://www.sewrpc.org/Farmland-Preservation-Planning)

The Commission aids in efforts to preserve lands with our most productive soils so they may continue to support agricultural uses.

During 2025, Commission staff assisted Ozaukee and Racine Counties with completion of updates to their Farmland Preservation Plans.



## Hazard Mitigation Planning

[www.sewrpc.org/Hazard-Mitigation-Planning](http://www.sewrpc.org/Hazard-Mitigation-Planning)

The Commission assists counties and local governments with preparing hazard mitigation plans aimed at minimizing the impact of disasters.

In 2025, Commission staff completed the hazard mitigation plan update for Milwaukee County. Plan updates have also been completed by Commission staff for Kenosha, Ozaukee, Racine, and Washington Counties. These plans include long-term and equitable strategies for protecting people and property by minimizing the impact of natural disasters, including flooding, coastal bluff failure, tornadoes, extreme temperature events, and severe winter storms. The plans also fulfill Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements, assuring communities are eligible to apply for federal funding for hazard mitigation projects.



### Land & Water Resource Management Planning

[www.sewrpc.org/Land-and-Water-Resource-Management-Planning](http://www.sewrpc.org/Land-and-Water-Resource-Management-Planning)

The Commission continuously assists Southeastern Wisconsin counties in preparing or updating their Land & Water Resource Management Plans since the plans became a State requirement in 1997.



### Local Park & Open Space Planning

[www.sewrpc.org/Park-and-Open-Space-Planning](http://www.sewrpc.org/Park-and-Open-Space-Planning)

In 2025, Commission staff assisted the Village of Caledonia with an update of its park and open space plan, and initiated work on updates of the City of Brookfield and City of Whitewater park plans.

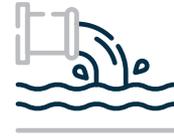


### Metro Milwaukee Pollution Reduction Action Plan

[www.sewrpc.org/Metro-Milwaukee-Pollution-Reduction-Action-Plan](http://www.sewrpc.org/Metro-Milwaukee-Pollution-Reduction-Action-Plan)

The Metro Milwaukee Pollution Reduction Action Plan will establish the first comprehensive pollution reduction plan for the Milwaukee metro area. Supported by an EPA grant, this phased project covers the Milwaukee Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), including Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha Counties.

Commission staff submitted the second-phase Comprehensive Pollution Reduction Plan to the EPA in December 2025, following completion of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Priority Pollution Reduction Action Plan that was submitted to the EPA in 2024. The purpose of the comprehensive plan is to develop consistent measures that reduce pollution, improve quality of life, and grow the workforce to meet future needs.



### Sanitary Sewer Service Area Planning

[www.sewrpc.org/Sanitary-Sewer-Service-Area-Planning](http://www.sewrpc.org/Sanitary-Sewer-Service-Area-Planning)

As part of its regional water quality management planning function, the Commission works with local wastewater treatment plant management agencies and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to prepare and update local sewer service area plans.

During 2025, Commission staff completed two amendments of the City of Port Washington sewer service area plan and have initiated work on amendments for the City of Burlington and Villages of Bloomfield/Pell Lake, Salem Lakes, and Yorkville. Commission staff also completed a comprehensive update of the sanitary sewer service area plan for the Village of Germantown and initiated updates for the City of Port Washington and Villages of Jackson and Menomonee Falls.

Updates and amendments to local plans serve as amendments to the Regional Water Quality Management Plan.



## Local Transportation **Planning Efforts**

[www.sewrpc.org/Transportation-Planning](http://www.sewrpc.org/Transportation-Planning)

Transportation issues represent a significant component of regional planning in all metro areas. From its inception in 1960, the Commission has been engaged in multimodal transportation planning, working cooperatively with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), transit operators, and county and local units of government in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Much of the local transportation planning efforts in which the Commission is involved are conducted using VISION 2050 as a regional framework. These local efforts often serve to refine and implement elements of the plan's recommended transportation system.



## Public Transit

[www.sewrpc.org/Transit](http://www.sewrpc.org/Transit)

In 2025, Commission staff initiated a study on the benefits of public transit for Milwaukee County, which will analyze access to jobs and workforce, air emission impacts, and safety. In addition, a public open house was held with Kenosha Area Transit in September 2025 to gather resident input on current services and support the study of alternative bus routes. Staff continued to assist transit operators with funding, research and compliance.



## Streets & Highways

[www.sewrpc.org/Streets-and-Highways](http://www.sewrpc.org/Streets-and-Highways)

In 2025, Commission staff provided technical assistance to communities in Walworth and Washington Counties. Specifically, the Commission completed two traffic engineering studies related to providing pedestrian crosswalks and a speed hump at specific locations in the Village of Williams Bay. In addition, Commission staff assisted the Town of Polk in completing its biennial pavement ratings for their roadways.

## Bikes & Pedestrians

[www.sewrpc.org/Bikes-and-Pedestrians](http://www.sewrpc.org/Bikes-and-Pedestrians)

In 2025, Commission staff continued updating the Village of Mount Pleasant's bicycle and pedestrian plan by identifying where bicycling and walking routes may feel uncomfortable or unsafe for people of all ages and abilities. Staff also heard from residents regarding community goals and strategies for the planned network. A final plan is expected in 2026.

## Human Services Transportation Coordination

[www.sewrpc.org/Human-Services-Transportation](http://www.sewrpc.org/Human-Services-Transportation)

Commission staff completed the 2025 Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordination Plans for each of the seven counties in Southeastern Wisconsin. The Coordination Plans provide a framework to assist community leaders, human services agencies, and public transit agencies for improving transportation services within and between counties. Transit projects using funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310) must be derived from a locally developed Coordination Plan.

# Water Resources **Planning Efforts**

[www.sewrpc.org/Water-Resources-Planning](http://www.sewrpc.org/Water-Resources-Planning)

Since completing an initial Regional Water Quality Management Plan in 1979, the Commission has worked cooperatively with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and other partners to conduct a continuing water quality management planning effort. A great deal of solutions and projects have come out of this plan and the Commission has continually supported implementation in a variety of ways.

The watershed has long been used as the basic planning unit for environmental-related work. A series of comprehensive watershed plans have been developed by Commission staff over the years addressing interrelated issues in each major watershed, focusing on water quality and floodland management. These plans provide the basis for regional sanitary sewerage and water quality management plans as well as ongoing efforts to address stormwater and floodland management issues.





## Lake & Stream Management

[www.sewrpc.org/  
Lakes-and-Streams](http://www.sewrpc.org/Lakes-and-Streams)

The Commission and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources work with local lake and stream community organizations to prepare lake and stream management plans.

In 2025, the Commission published five aquatic plant management plans and five staff memorandum reports for lakes in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Walworth, Waukesha, and Washington Counties. Commission staff also developed a nine key element plan for Turtle Creek in Walworth County. Several other lakes across the Region were surveyed for future plans and reports.



## Flood Management

[www.sewrpc.org/  
Flood-Management](http://www.sewrpc.org/Flood-Management)

The Commission maintains a continuing program to address stormwater and floodplain management issues, applying significant expertise in hydrologic and hydraulic modeling across the Region.

In 2025, Commission staff efforts involved updating floodplain boundaries on multiple streams in the Region. These include the South Branch Pike River and tributaries in Kenosha County, Southwick Creek in Walworth County, and Root River and tributaries in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties. The upper Root River mainstem hydraulic model was also completed.



## Coastal Management

[www.sewrpc.org/  
Coastal-Management](http://www.sewrpc.org/Coastal-Management)

Commission staff assist the Wisconsin Department of Administration in conducting the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, established to preserve and improve Wisconsin's Great Lakes coastal resources.

In 2025, staff completed 37 vegetation surveys and site assessments for coastal habitat and restoration planning. Natural area inventories, assessments and draft restoration and management plans were completed for nine sites in coastal counties. Natural area inventories, assessments and site visits were conducted for the MMSD Greenseams and Reforestation & Wetland Restoration programs. Detailed floristic quality assessments were completed at land trust properties in Ozaukee and Washington counties. Commission staff also continued to participate in the Collaborative Action for Lake Michigan (CALM) coastal resilience effort.

# Info & Data

Our partners across Southeastern Wisconsin regularly look to the Commission as a resource for accurate data and objective information to assist in planning and decision making. To see additional information and data the Commission offers, including brownfields, demographics, land use data, precipitation frequency, publications, and regional performance monitoring, visit [www.sewrpc.org/Info-and-Data](http://www.sewrpc.org/Info-and-Data).



## ADID Wetlands

[www.sewrpc.org/ADID-Wetlands](http://www.sewrpc.org/ADID-Wetlands)

The Commission provides technical assistance to Federal and State agencies in preparing Advanced Identification of Wetland Disposal Areas (ADID) maps of wetland areas deemed inappropriate for the disposal of fill and dredged materials.



## Air Quality

[www.sewrpc.org/Air-Quality](http://www.sewrpc.org/Air-Quality)

The Commission has long worked to address air management issues, with a specific focus on ensuring that Commission transportation plans and programs “conform” to air quality standards.



## Demographics

[www.sewrpc.org/Demographics](http://www.sewrpc.org/Demographics)

The Commission plays an important role in the Region by providing data on the Region’s population to practitioners as they conduct their planning and decision-making processes.



## Economic Modeling

[www.sewrpc.org/Economic-Modeling](http://www.sewrpc.org/Economic-Modeling)

Through a partnership with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, the Commission can access and share local employment and industry data available through Lightcast (formerly EMSI).



## Environmental Corridors

[www.sewrpc.org/Environmental-Corridors](http://www.sewrpc.org/Environmental-Corridors)

The Commission has defined, mapped, and long recommended protecting environmental corridors to help preserve the Region’s most important remaining natural resource elements.



## Land Use Data

[www.sewrpc.org/Land-Use-Data](http://www.sewrpc.org/Land-Use-Data)

The Commission maintains data on the generalized land use from the current and previous inventories for each community in the Region, which practitioners can use as they conduct their planning and decision-making processes.



### Mapping & Survey Data

[www.sewrpc.org/Mapping-and-Survey-Data](http://www.sewrpc.org/Mapping-and-Survey-Data)

The Commission's Interactive Mapping Application provides a regional geographic information system of digital mapping that includes land use, environmental corridors, and other spatial data essential to the planning process.



### Plant Identification Guides

[www.sewrpc.org/Plant-Identification-Guides](http://www.sewrpc.org/Plant-Identification-Guides)

Commission staff prepares plant identification guides that can aid proper identification of plant species in the field, such as when determining whether an area meets the criteria for classification as a wetland, or in assessing the floristic quality of a site for natural areas protection.



### Non-Motorized Count Program

[www.sewrpc.org/Non-Motorized-Count-Program](http://www.sewrpc.org/Non-Motorized-Count-Program)

The Commission operates a program that collects count data for non-motorized modes, such as bicycle and pedestrian travel, and reports the data through an interactive website.



### Zoning & Ordinances

[www.sewrpc.org/Zoning-and-Ordinances](http://www.sewrpc.org/Zoning-and-Ordinances)

The Commission prepares planning guides, model ordinances, and other materials to assist county and local governments as they prepare plans and implement ordinances.



### Precipitation Frequency

[www.sewrpc.org/Precipitation-Frequency](http://www.sewrpc.org/Precipitation-Frequency)

The Commission compiles important information related to precipitation frequency for various stormwater and floodplain management applications.

Commission staff also analyze the probabilities of heavy rain events occurring in the Region. The extreme storms in August 2025 produced historic rainfall totals, especially in Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties, where greater than 1,000-year recurrence probability rainfall events occurred at numerous locations. The highest 24-hour total of 14.55 inches was recorded on Milwaukee's northwest side at the 8135 W. Florist Avenue rain gauge (James Madison High School).

# Services

Commission staff provide a variety of services, primarily to local and county governments in support of their various planning efforts. To see additional services the Commission offers, including plan review and transportation services, visit [www.sewrpc.org/Services](http://www.sewrpc.org/Services).



## CommuteWISE

[www.sewrpc.org/CommuteWISE](http://www.sewrpc.org/CommuteWISE)

The Commission's CommuteWISE program aims to enhance mobility by connecting workers to job opportunities, sharing transportation options, expanding access, reducing traffic congestion, and improving air quality.

In 2025, the CommuteWISE program sponsored one successful commuter challenge to encourage alternatives to driving alone. Through the program, Commission staff also assisted regional employers in establishing employee carpooling programs and continued to share information on CommuteWISE at local and statewide events.



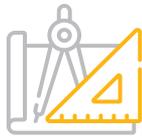
## Environmental Fieldwork

[www.sewrpc.org/Environmental-Fieldwork](http://www.sewrpc.org/Environmental-Fieldwork)

The Commission continually helps local, county, State, and Federal units of government evaluate project proposals by defining the extent and quality of wetlands, environmental corridors, natural areas, rare species, and other sensitive natural resources contained on project sites. Commission staff are available to review environmental corridor and wetland delineations conducted by private consultants.

Commission staff worked on a total of 50 projects involving fieldwork in 2025. Projects included 42 wetland delineations, three combined wetland and environmental corridor delineations, two environmental corridor determinations, and four vegetation surveys.

Commission staff also completed 25 Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Sites site visits.



## County Surveying

[www.sewrpc.org/County-Surveying](http://www.sewrpc.org/County-Surveying)

In 2025, Commission staff continued to carry out the responsibilities of the Milwaukee County Surveyor, and provided County Surveyor services to Kenosha, Ozaukee, Walworth, and Waukesha Counties. Staff also assisted the County Surveyor in Racine County. The primary role as County Surveyor is to support the U.S. Public Land Survey System (USPLSS) and ensure all USPLSS monument corners in each county have been perpetuated. Survey documents are available for the entire Region through the Commission's PLSS Document Search Application that can be accessed on our County Surveying webpage.

During 2025, a total of 458 monument corners were visited throughout the five Counties by survey staff to perform general maintenance and GPS validation with the computed State Plane Coordinate System values. Staff also replaced monument corners that had been disturbed or destroyed, primarily by road reconstruction.



## High-Density LiDAR 3D Mapping

In 2025, the Commission conducted a high-density light detecting and ranging (LiDAR) project in partnership with all seven member counties. LiDAR technology is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure and generate precise, three-dimensional information used to support topographic mapping. LiDAR is commonly used to make high-resolution maps for flood plain modeling, coastal and bluff erosion analysis, and other engineering services.

The Commission arranged for all Counties to work under one contract agreement for the LiDAR service, providing significant economy of scale and cost savings. The Commission also provided significant in-kind services to further reduce costs by providing project administration, contract management, quality control, and review of final data sets.



## Community Engagement

[www.sewrpc.org/Community-Engagement](http://www.sewrpc.org/Community-Engagement)

Community engagement is an important part of our planning process. Our commitment is to engage residents and encourage people of all ages and backgrounds to participate in planning for Southeastern Wisconsin's future.

We directly engage and provide updates to more than 70 Primary Organizations serving specific population subgroups, including nine Community Partners. Our engagement techniques are continually evolving and include in-person and virtual meetings and events, print and digital content, and an open invitation for the public to discuss issues facing the Region with Commission staff.

In 2025, the Community Engagement Division completed a major effort to update our Community Engagement Plan, with input from across the Region to help inform the plan. Commission staff also attended an expanded number of community expos and student engagement activities throughout the Region during the year.

## Community Engagement & Benefits Task Force

[www.sewrpc.org/CEBTaskForce](http://www.sewrpc.org/CEBTaskForce)

The Community Engagement and Benefits Task Force was established by the Commission to support meaningful engagement in the regional planning process and to ensure that plans consider the needs of all residents. The Task Force consists of 15 representatives from throughout the Region who meet regularly to gain an understanding of the Commission's technical work program and to provide input to that program.

The Task Force met four times in 2025 to receive updates on and provide input on community engagement activities, review the Commission's Community Engagement Plan Update, and advise staff on the development of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Comprehensive Pollution Reduction Plan. The Task Force also discussed regional planning strategies to support older adults as a follow-up to Commission involvement in a project with a University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Planning and Policy Analysis class.

# Staff

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission prepares an annual work program that is reviewed and approved by Federal and State funding agencies. This work program is then carried out by a core staff of full-time professional, technical, and administrative personnel, supplemented by additional temporary staff and consultants as needed. At the end of 2025, the Commission staff totaled 62 employees.

For a current listing of Commission staff, visit [www.sewrpc.org/Staffing](http://www.sewrpc.org/Staffing).

## Executive Leadership

Stephanie Hacker, AICP, LEED AP, *Executive Director*  
Benjamin McKay, AICP, *Deputy Director*  
Elizabeth Larsen, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, *Director of Administration*  
Christopher Hiebert, PE, *MPO Director*  
Eric Lynde, *Special Projects Director*

## Administrative Services

### **Elizabeth Larsen, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, Director of Administration**

Megan Deau, *Principal Graphic Designer*  
Justin Kendall, *Systems Administrator*  
Robert Klatkiewicz, *Office Clerk*  
Richard Wazny, *Print Shop/Building Supervisor*  
Jim Zehner, *Communications Specialist*

## Environmental Planning

### **Laura Herrick, PE, CFM, Chief Environmental Engineer** **Thomas Slawski, PhD, Chief Specialist-Biologist**

Jennifer Dietl, *Principal Specialist*  
Hanna Helker, *Biologist/Natural Resources Specialist*  
Shane Heyel, *Senior Specialist*  
Karin Hollister, PE, *Principal Engineer*  
Christopher Jors, *Principal Specialist*  
Collin Klaubauf, *Engineer*  
Zachary Kron, *Senior Specialist*  
James Mahoney, PE, *Engineer*  
Danielle Matuszak, *Biologist/Water Resources Specialist*  
Julia Orłowski, PE, *Senior Engineer*  
Aaron Owens, *Principal Planner*  
Justin Poinsatte, PhD, *Principal Specialist*  
Emily Porter, *Planner*  
Jessica Schuler, *Specialist-Biologist*  
Megan Shedivy, *Planner*

## Land Use Planning

### **Joel Dietl, AICP, Chief Land Use Planner**

Donald Heckel, *Senior Planner*  
Kendall Johnson, *Research Analyst*  
Richard Kania, PLA, AICP, *Principal Planner*  
Gideon Oduro, *Spatial/Data Analyst*  
Robbie Robinson, *Principal Planner*  
David Schilling, *Principal Planner*  
Adam Schumacher, *Planner*  
James Siegler, *Planner*  
Bryan Walter, *Senior Planner*

## Community Engagement

### **Nakeisha Payne, Chief Community Engagement Specialist**

## Special Projects

### **Eric Lynde, Special Projects Director**

Barry Gore, *Principal Planner*  
Christopher Parisey, *Senior Planner*  
Miranda Walser, JD, *Planner*

## Surveying and GIS

### **Robert Merry, PLS, Chief Surveyor** **Michael Gosetti, GIS Manager**

Patricia Bouchard, *GIS Specialist*  
Frank Fierek, Jr., *Senior Specialist*  
Timothy Gorsegner, *GIS Specialist*  
Benjamin Johnson, *Senior GIS Specialist*  
Bradley Subotnik, *Senior GIS Specialist*  
Andrew Traeger, *Senior Specialist*

## Transportation Planning

### **Ryan Hoel, PE, Chief Transportation Engineer** **Jennifer Sarnecki, AICP, Deputy Chief Transportation Planner**

Gom Ale, PhD, *Principal Specialist-Modeler*  
Victor Helin, *Senior Planner*  
William Henning, *Engineer*  
Ethan Johnson, *Senior Planner*  
Kaleb Kutz, *Planner*  
Tony Mattingly, AICP, *Senior Engineer*  
Samuel Mercier, AICP, *Senior Planner*  
Estela Peterson, *Planning Technician*  
Gabriel Rosenwald, *Engineer*  
Xylia Rueda, *Senior Planner*  
Dana Shinner, *Senior Planner*

W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive  
P.O. Box 1607  
Waukesha, WI 53187

247 Freshwater Way  
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Phone: 262.547.6721  
[www.sewrpc.org](http://www.sewrpc.org)



 @SEWRPC

 SEWRPC

 @SEW\_RPC

 @sew\_rpc