

RESOURCES PLANNING - A MAJOR REGIONAL CONCERN

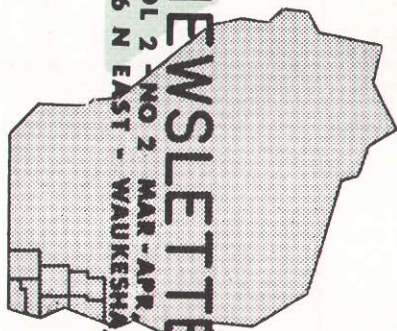
All civilizations down through history have been based on the resources available in their region. The availability of resources has depended entirely on the technological level of society. Students of history tell us that many areas of the world have been, at various periods in time, the home of successive societies, each of a more advanced nature. The early Neanderthal man hunted and fished in the same location in Germany where now rise the large industrial and urban complexes of the Rhine and Ruhr Valleys. It is estimated that the continent of North America had a population of 500,000 Indians at the time of Columbus; less than one-third of the population of Southeastern Wisconsin 470 years later. Most of these inhabitants in 1492 engaged in hunting and fishing, while most of us in 1962 are engaged in highly skilled occupations in business, industry or the professions. Historians say that the inhabitants of North America in 1492 were utilizing their resources to the extreme limit in order to live. Are the present inhabitants of our area also treading the same path? Or do we still have leeway for more intensive use of our resources?

Environmental and resource problems apparent today force one to ask if the patterns of living being developed in an urbanizing region such as ours are becoming unmanageable and far too costly. Our present lack of adjustment to natural resources has made water pollution, flooding, erosion, declining ground water and other problems widespread in the region.

Continued

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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RESOURCES PLANNING *continued*

These problems and many more are the reason for the comprehensive analysis of natural resources recently initiated by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Such a program falls into several main parts, including:

- (1) Survey of existing resources and problems.
- (2) Identification of factors causing problems.
- (3) Preparation of programs to resolve problems.

The results of this study will be available in about a year. The Commission will be assisted and guided by a newly formed Technical Advisory Committee on Natural Resources, composed of representatives from selected federal, state and local agencies active in the resource field. Results of this study will be distributed and discussed with various citizen advisory groups. These groups can then recommend the programs best geared to the needs of their areas.

Planning should be for people. The kind of city, suburban or rural environment we inhabit in the future in Southeastern Wisconsin will depend in great measure on how well we plan for it now. Planning for sufficient, beneficial future resources is the only way to preserve the gifts we enjoy today.

IT HAS BEEN SAID

"It took all of the vast reaches of time to build today's population of slightly over 3 billion. But it will take only 40 more years for population to reach 6 billion, if the present growth rates remain unchanged. The majority of the world's people still live close to the subsistence level, in poverty and squalor reminiscent of the Middle Ages. If the demographic transition to a balance between low birth and death rates could be hastened in the less-developed countries, this gulf might yet be bridged in time to avert a Malthusian disaster."

from "How Many People Have Ever Lived On Earth?"
by Robert C. Cook, Editor
Population Reference
Bureau Bulletin
February, 1962

MORE ABOUT OUR COMMISSIONERS:

MR. RICHARD W. CUTLER, Milwaukee County, is the Secretary of the Commission's Planning Committee. A native of New York State, he received his L.L.B. from Yale University in 1941. He has been a partner in the law firm of Brady, Tyrrell and Bruce since 1949. He was a former Brookfield City Attorney; Chairman of the Land Use and Zoning Committee of the Metropolitan Study Committee, 1957-61; and Chairman of the Urban Problems Committee of the Legislative Council. He is President of Children's Service Society of Wisconsin, former President of the Milwaukee Branch of Foreign Policy Association, and a member of Greater Milwaukee Committee since 1957. His articles have appeared in such publications as *Wisconsin Law Review*, *National Civic Review* and the *Municipality*.

MR. D. STEPHAN FISCHER, Ozaukee County, is a member of the Planning Committee. A lifelong resident of Ozaukee County, he was graduated from Milwaukee State Teachers College with a B. of Ed. degree in Art. He is associated with the firm of Cramer-Krassett Company, an advertising agency in Milwaukee. He was in the 193rd F. A. Battalion, First Army, during the war. He was formerly an alderman and served on the Utility Commission for two years. As Mayor of Cedarburg, he was Chairman of the Planning Commission for eight years.

DR. CARLTON HERMAN, Washington County, is also a member of the Commission Planning Committee. He was graduated from Marquette University School of Dentistry in 1922 and practiced general dentistry until 1955; since that time he has limited his practice to Orthodontics. He is interested in all kinds of sports and is an ardent conservationist. At the present time, he holds the office of President of the Allenton Sanitary Commission, Chairman of the Washington County Park Commission and President Elect of the American Academy of Orthodontics for the General Practitioner.

MR. EUGENE HOLLISTER, Walworth County, is a member of the Planning Committee. A lifelong resident of Williams Bay, he is now manager of the Hollister Lumber Company. He attended the University of Wisconsin, University of Alabama and received his degree at Southeastern College in Louisiana. He played professional football with the Chicago Cardinals and served in the Navy for 4 years. He has been a member of the Walworth County Board for 8 years, and Chairman of the Walworth County Special School since the board was formed. He is a member of the Lions Club and the Elks Club, and is a 32nd Degree Mason.

THE REGION AT RANDOM

Burlington - The council has adopted a new street naming and uniform numbering system.

West Allis - The city has developed a ten year capital improvement program.

Waukesha - A 'downtown study', including surveys of land use, parking, accidents, origin and destination, is scheduled for completion by May 7. Geography students from Carroll College are helping with the surveys.

Milwaukee - A ten year sites, survey and program report on playground facilities has recently been published.

Waukesha County - The Park and Planning Commission has recently published a report on *Population - Waukesha County* (see page 7); *Waukesha County Street Atlas* (\$3.00), and a *Bi-Annual Report* (1960-61), available at no charge from the Park and Planning Commission, Courthouse, Waukesha.

Racine City-County - The City-County liaison Committee appointed a Committee consisting of:

- 2 members of Racine County Plan Commission
- 2 members of Racine Park Commission
- 2 members of Racine County Planning Commission
- 2 members of Racine County Highway Committee

The purpose of this Committee is to study, plan and recommend a county-wide open space program.

Milwaukee - The new Milwaukee Department of City Development has initiated work on three major new programs:

- 1) a comprehensive revision of the City's master plan
- 2) preparation of a community renewal plan
- 3) comprehensive revision of the Zoning Ordinance

Milwaukee has recently received a federal grant of \$8,600,000 to begin execution of its 64 acre East Side Area 'A' Urban Renewal Project.

EMPHASIS ...on Park and Open Space Planning in Region

It is apparent that many municipalities recognize the need for the planning and development of parks and reservation of open spaces in order to keep pace with the population explosion which has taken place in this region. In many cases recognition is being given to the need for reservation of open space not only for future development of recreational areas, but also, through flood plain or conservancy zoning, to aid in controlling flood damage, pollution and related problems:

Continued

EMPHASIS ...continued

Milwaukee County - Charles B. Whitnall envisioned a system of parks and parkways 55 years ago, which today constitutes the core of the development of the fine Milwaukee County Park System. Their park and parkway system, totaling over 11,000 acres, is one of the finest in the nation. Their stepped up program of acquisition and development is reflected in the increase in their budget for this purpose-- 249% since 1957, over the previous six year period.

Waukesha County - The Park and Planning Commission adopted a Park and Parkway Plan in 1958 which located 13 proposed regional parks containing 3000 acres of land, and a system of parkways along the major streams. Six of these areas have been acquired, totaling 1115 acres, and are presently under development. Mukwonago Park and Muskego Park will be open to the public this summer. Work will commence this spring on an 18 hole golf course in Naga-Waukee Park, to be completed in 1964. Their budget for County Parks has increased, exclusive of acquisition, some 320% since 1959. Menomonee Falls village board has purchased 27 acres of land for future park purposes. Brookfield has recently purchased 127 acres for a city park.

Ozaukee County - The county recently purchased 285 acres on the Milwaukee River north of Saukville for park purposes. This year's plans for the new park call for starting work in construction of greens, fareways and a watering system for a public nine hole course, plus building of some access roads and picnic facilities along the Milwaukee River. Later this park will contain a small lake, camping area for youth groups and winter sports facilities. In addition, Ozaukee County has a total of 411 acres that are available for park and recreation purposes.

Racine - The city has recently adopted a development plan for the South Lake Michigan Lake Front, involving 1.2 miles of lake shore. About 90 acres of additional recreational land will be secured through the three and one half million dollar project and will require ten years to complete. Racine County and the townships of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant have also expanded their existing park area.

Kenosha - The community facilities map has been revised to include several properties in the county recently offered to the city for park purposes.

(Note: We will appreciate any contributions to our Region at Random column.)

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

Answer:

A Comprehensive Plan for a local community, sometimes called a 'Master Plan' or a 'General Plan', is a statement of development policies for the locality which, when agreed upon by the community, provides a unified guide for future development. The components of a Comprehensive Plan are (1) a Land Use Plan, (2) Circulation and Transportation System Plan, (3) Community Facilities Plan, and (4) Devices for Implementation, ie., Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Control Ordinance, Urban Renewal Program, Capital Improvement Program, Official Map, Building Codes, and Precise Neighborhood Unit Development Plans.

Before a Comprehensive Plan can be achieved, the following studies must be made:

1. Land use. An investigation of existing land utilization within the municipality, depicting the current situation.
2. Physical Characteristics. An investigation of all physical characteristics, including such factors as topography, soil conditions and drainage.
3. Population. A study of population trends, distribution and characteristics. The prediction of future population trends is vital to planning.
4. Circulation and Transportation. An investigation and functional classification of existing facilities for traffic circulation and transportation, and a detailed inventory of the existing transportation movement.
5. Community Facilities and Services. The basis for future public improvements is provided by a careful survey of existing facilities--schools, sewers, water systems, fire and police protection, libraries--and an analysis of their adequacy for existing development and future growth.
6. Economic Base and Financial Analysis. A study of the community's economic aspects, with particular attention to the tax base; and an examination of municipal fiscal trends.
7. Neighborhood Development and Community Characteristics. An investigation of individual neighborhood development including housing, shopping and industrial characteristics, as well as trends for the future.
8. The Master Plan, itself, includes a summary of all the findings and conclusions; a plan for the future use of land, a plan for future streets, roads, highways and parking, pro-

Continued

QUESTION, PLEASE?, continued

jected future public facilities; and a suggested program of any necessary rebuilding, such as urban renewal or central business district reorganization.

9. Capital Budget Program. A program for the inclusion of the projected public facilities into the municipal budgetary system.

10. Regulatory Measures. The provision of the legal tools to carry out planning, including a zoning ordinance and map, subdivision controls, and reviews of related codes and ordinances.*

* Portions of the above were taken from *The Citizen's Guide To Planning*, by Herbert H. Smith.

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PLANNING HAS THREE FUNCTIONS:

1. Research and analysis - to answer the question "where are we now?"

2. Goal formulation - to answer the question "where do we want to go?". This is the real heart of the plan, and must be accepted and approved by the governing body and general public as the desired environmental objective.

3. Specific plan making or "how do we get there". In this function lies the key to successful planning, since it is at this stage that objectives are reduced to attainable goals, which serve as guides to action.

* * * * *

WAUKESHA COUNTY PUBLISHES POPULATION REPORT

The Waukesha County Park and Planning Commission has recently published a Population Report for Waukesha County. The information contained was compiled by statistical areas of the county--called census tracts--which have been combined as logical areas for statistical analyses. Census information was collected in 1960 on the basis of a census tract plan of the county, thus permitting this more detailed assembly and analysis of population data. The report should be particularly useful to municipal governing bodies, school boards, plan commissions, social service organizations, utility companies and chambers of commerce in Waukesha County. Copies are available at the Park and Planning Commission offices at \$2.00 per copy.

DID YOU KNOW...

...That weekly earnings of production workers in manufacturing rose from less than \$10.00 in 1901 to nearly \$90.00 in 1960--a ninefold increase. During the same period, the factory work week dropped from 51 to less than 40 hours.

(Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics)

* * * *

...The total population residing in the United States (excluding Armed Forces abroad) was about 184,666,000 on Feb. 1, 1962. This figure represents an increase of 2,876,000, or 1.6 percent, over the estimate for the corresponding month a year ago. These estimates are based on the 1960 and 1950 Censuses and statistics on births, deaths, immigration, and emigration for the years since 1950. The final count of the total population residing in the United States on April 1, 1960, is 179,323,175.

(Source: Bureau of the Census)

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL
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