AMENDMENT TO THE

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

CITY OF LAKE GENEVA

AS ADOPTED BY THE

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

DECEMBER 2004
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William J. Stauber, AICP . . . . . . . . . . . . Chief Land Use Planner
SUBJECT: Certification of Amendment to the Adopted Regional Water Quality Management Plan (Lake Geneva Sewer Service Area)

TO: The Legislative Bodies of Concerned Local Units of Government within the Southeastern Wisconsin Region, namely: the County of Walworth and the City of Lake Geneva

This is to certify that at the meeting of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, held at O’Donnell Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on the 1st day of December 2004, the Commission did by unanimous vote of all Commissioners present, being 17 ayes and 0 nays, and by appropriate Resolution, a copy of which is made a part hereof and incorporated by reference to the same force and effect as if it had been specifically set forth herein in detail, adopt an amendment to the regional water quality management plan, which plan was originally adopted by the Commission on the 12th day of July 1979, as part of the master plan for the physical development of the Region. Said amendment to the regional water quality management plan pertains to the revised Lake Geneva sanitary sewer service area and consists of the documents attached hereto and made a part hereof. Such action taken by the Commission is recorded on, and is a part of, said plan, and the plan as amended is hereby transmitted to the constituent local units of government for consideration, adoption, and implementation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal and cause the Seal of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to be hereto affixed. Dated at the City of Pewaukee, Wisconsin, this 2nd day of December 2004.

Thomas H. Buestrin, Chairman
Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

ATTEST:

Philip C. Evenson, Deputy Secretary
RESOLUTION NO. 2004-18

(LAKE GENEVA SANITARY SEWER SERVICE AREA)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 66.0309(10) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, at a meeting held on the 12th day of July 1979, duly adopted a regional water quality management plan as documented in the three-volume SEWRPC Planning Report No. 30, A Regional Water Quality Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2000; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held on the 18th day of January 1993, the Commission duly adopted an amendment to the regional water quality management plan refining and detailing the Lake Geneva sanitary sewer service area as documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 203, Sanitary Sewer Service Area for the City of Lake Geneva and Environs, Walworth County, Wisconsin, December 1992, and

WHEREAS, by letter dated October 14, 2004, the City of Lake Geneva requested that the Commission amend the Lake Geneva sanitary sewer service area to include certain lands located outside of the currently adopted sewer service area; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment to the regional water quality management plan is documented in a Commission staff memorandum entitled, “Response to Request by the City of Lake Geneva to Amend the Lake Geneva Sanitary Sewer Service Area,” attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, the requested change to the regional water quality management plan, as documented in the aforementioned staff memorandum, was the subject of a public hearing held jointly by the City of Lake Geneva and the Regional Planning Commission on November 22, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Section 66.0309(9) of the Wisconsin Statutes authorizes and empowers the Regional Planning Commission, as the work of making the whole master plan progresses, to amend, extend, or add to the master plan or carry any part or subject thereof into greater detail;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED:

FIRST: That the regional water quality management plan for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region, being a part of the master plan for the physical development of the Region and comprised of SEWRPC Planning Report No. 30, Volumes One, Two, and Three, which was adopted by the Commission as a part of the master plan on the 12th day of July 1979, and which was amended on the 18th day of January 1993 to include the refined Lake Geneva sewer service area, as set forth in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 203, be and the same hereby is amended in the manner identified on Map 1 of the aforementioned SEWRPC staff memorandum.

SECOND: That the Executive Director is authorized to submit findings to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Commerce that public and private sanitary sewer extensions necessary to serve the anticipated development on the lands concerned are in conformance with, and would serve to implement, the adopted regional water quality management plan as herein amended.
THIRD: That a true, correct, and exact copy of this resolution, together with the aforementioned SEWRPC staff memorandum, shall be forthwith distributed to each of the local legislative bodies of the local governmental units within the Region entitled thereto and to such other bodies, agencies, or individuals as the law may require or as the Commission, its Executive Committee, or its Executive Director, at their discretion, shall determine and direct.

The foregoing resolution, upon motion duly made and seconded, was regularly adopted at the meeting of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission held on the 1st day of December 2004, the vote being: Ayes 17; Nays 0.

Thomas H. Buestrin, Chairman

ATTEST:

Philip C. Evenson, Deputy Secretary
INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

By letter dated October 14, 2004, the City of Lake Geneva requested that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission amend the Lake Geneva and environs sanitary sewer service area tributary to the City of Lake Geneva sewage treatment facility. That area is currently documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 203, Sanitary Sewer Service Area for the City of Lake Geneva and Environs, Walworth County, Wisconsin, dated December 1992. The basic purpose of this amendment would be to include within the planned Lake Geneva sewer service area certain lands located immediately adjacent to, but outside of, the currently adopted sewer service area.

AREA DESCRIPTION

The area proposed to be added to the Lake Geneva sanitary sewer service area encompasses 90 acres located south of USH 12 in U.S. Public Land Survey Section 24, Township 2 North, Range 17 East, in the City of Lake Geneva (see Map 1). The subject 90-acre area includes 49 acres of primary environmental corridor, 9 acres of existing urban land use, including road rights-of-way, and 32 acres in agricultural use. The subject area is anticipated to be developed for residential use to accommodate 60 housing units with a population of about 140 persons.

A more detailed delineation of the amended sewer service area and of the environmentally significant lands within are shown on the aerial photograph reproduced as Map 2. The environmentally significant lands shown on Map 2 have been revised from the previously published maps as set forth in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 203 in order to reflect environmental resources as shown on the most recent available aerial photography.

RELATIONSHIP OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE EXISTING SANITARY SEWER SERVICE AREA

The proposed addition of 90 acres to the Lake Geneva and environs sanitary sewer service area represents an increase in the planned sewer service area of 1.7 percent. The planned population of the expanded sewer service area—that is, the estimated population which could be accommodated upon full development of the sewer service area—would lie within the year 2020 population projection range for this area embodied in the regional land use plan.

As noted earlier, the subject area includes 49 acres of primary environmental corridor lands. That corridor is comprised of woodlands, including some areas of steep slopes. Any residential development within the environmental corridor should be limited to no more than one dwelling unit per five acres of corridor, and building envelopes should not be located on steep slopes.

WATER QUALITY IMPACTS

Under the adopted regional water quality management plan and the refined sanitary sewer service area plan herein set forth, it is envisioned that all urban lands within the planned urban service area would receive sanitary sewer service. Assuming that all applicable Federal, State, and local permits are obtained and that proper site development and construction practices are employed, in particular avoiding the placement of structures in areas of steep slope, there should be no significant adverse water quality impacts attributable to the development of the planned sanitary sewer service area.
COST EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS

The proposed addition to the Lake Geneva sanitary sewer service area is immediately adjacent to the currently approved sewer service area tributary to the City of Lake Geneva sewage treatment plant. The nearest other public sanitary sewer system, operated by the Lake Como Sanitary District, is located about 2 miles from the subject area. No further analysis is deemed necessary to conclude that the subject area would be served most cost-effectively through connection to the City of Lake Geneva sewage treatment plant.

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT CAPACITY IMPACT ANALYSIS

Sewage from the Lake Geneva area is treated at the City of Lake Geneva sewage treatment facility. The Lake Geneva sewage treatment plant has a hydraulic design capacity of 2.5 million gallons per day (mgd) on an average annual
basis. The average annual flow rate in 2003 was about 1.2 mgd. The anticipated sewage flow to be generated in the area proposed to be added to the Lake Geneva sewer service area may be expected to be about 0.02 mgd on an average annual basis. Thus the treatment plant has capacity to serve the proposed addition to sewer service area.

PUBLIC REACTION TO THE PLAN AMENDMENT

A public hearing was held on November 22, 2004, at the Lake Geneva City Hall to receive public comment on, and reaction to, the proposed plan amendment. The hearing was sponsored by the City of Lake Geneva and the Regional Planning Commission. A summary of the plan amendment was presented prior to receiving public comment, including a description of the lands proposed to be added to the sewer service area and any environmentally significant land located within.

The following comments were made at the public hearing:

1. Staff from the Walworth County Land Use and Resource Management Department indicated that the Walworth County Land Conservation Committee objected to the proposed sewer service area amendment based upon the limited information they had in hand, the objection growing out of concerns regarding the primary environmental corridor and steep slopes on portions of the subject area.

2. A city resident living near the sewage treatment plant inquired if expansion of the sewer service area would increase the odors emitted by the operation of that facility. The City public works director responded that the City’s sewage treatment plant was operating at roughly half of its rated capacity, and that the proposed addition to the sewer service area would contribute very little additional sewage flow. He also noted that improvements were made to the sewage treatment plant in 2003 and 2004 to eliminate some of the odors, and that some recent foul smells present in the area in the fall of 2004 were due to agricultural operations located outside of the City—not the result of operation of the City’s sewage treatment plant.

With respect to Item No. 1 above, the Commission staff received a preliminary site development plan for the proposed Stone Ridge Subdivision. That site development plan indicates 11 lots are proposed to be located within a 55-acre upland portion of the primary environmental corridor, some of which already lies within the sewer service area. The site development plan further indicates that building sites would avoid areas of steep slope. The resulting density of approximately one dwelling unit per five acres, along with the avoidance of development in areas of steep slope, is consistent with the recommendations of the regional land use plan and the Walworth County land use plan with respect to upland primary environmental corridor areas. Given the foregoing, no changes were made to the proposed plan amendment as presented at the public hearing.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THE PLAN AMENDMENT


CONCLUDING RECOMMENDATION

Based on the foregoing, it is recommended that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission formally amend the sanitary sewer service area for the City of Lake Geneva and Environs as documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No.203.
Map 2

ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS AND PLANNED SANITARY SEWER SERVICE AREA FOR THE CITY OF LAKE GENEVA AND ENVIRONS

South Half of U. S. Public Land Survey Section 24, Township 2 North, Range 17 East

NOTE: This map replaces the corresponding portion of Map 7-2, page 21, of SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 203, Sanitary Sewer Service Area for the City of Lake Geneva and Environs, Walworth County, Wisconsin, December 1992.

Source: SEWRPC.