

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

November 21, 2006

1:30 p.m.

SEWRPC Office Building
Commissioners' Conference Room
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive
Waukesha, Wisconsin

Present:

Excused:

Committee Members:

Daniel S. Schmidt, Chairman
David L. Stroik, Vice-Chairman
Charlene S. Brady
Thomas H. Buestrin
Anita M. Faraone
Michael J. Miklasevich
James E. Moyer
Paul G. Vrakas

Anthony F. Balestrieri
Leon T. Dreger
Kenneth C. Herro
Gregory L. Holden
Lee Holloway

Absent:

Anselmo Villarreal

Staff:

Philip C. Evenson	Executive Director
Michael G. Hahn	Chief Environmental Engineer
William J. Stauber	Chief Land Use Planner
Loretta Watson	Executive Secretary

ROLL CALL

Chairman Schmidt called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum declared present. Mr. Evenson noted for the record that Commissioners Balestrieri, Dreger, Herro, Holden, and Holloway had asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF AUGUST 30, 2006

On a motion by Mr. Miklasevich, seconded by Mr. Vrakas, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the meeting of August 30, 2006, were approved as published.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Sewer Service Area Plan for the Village of Sussex

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Stauber to review with the Committee a proposed amendment to the adopted regional water quality management plan pertaining to the sanitary sewer service area for the Village of Sussex. A copy of the preliminary draft of a SEWRPC staff memorandum dated December 2006 concerning this matter had been provided to the Committee members for review prior to the meeting.

Mr. Stauber indicated that by letter dated October 23, 2006, the Village of Sussex requested that the Commission amend the Sussex sanitary sewer service area tributary to the Sussex sewage treatment facility. That area is currently documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 84 (2nd Edition), *Sanitary Sewer Service Area for the Village of Sussex, Waukesha County, Wisconsin*, dated September 1994, as amended. The purpose of this amendment would be to include within the planned Sussex sewer service area certain lands located immediately adjacent to, but outside, the currently adopted sewer service area.

Mr. Stauber directed the Committee's attention to Map 1 in the amendment document. He noted that four areas are proposed to be added to the sewer service area. The areas are generally located on the western edge of the currently adopted sewer service area along both sides of STH 164. Together, the four areas encompass 250 acres, including 32 acres of environmentally significant lands. In total, there are about 207 acres of land considered developable. It is envisioned that the developable areas would be developed for residential, commercial, and recreational uses, with the residential development expected to accommodate about 280 housing units with a population of about 700 persons. Mr. Stauber noted that this is an interim amendment intended to accommodate imminent development and that the Commission is working with the Village of Sussex and Town of Lisbon on a major revision of the Sussex-Lisbon sewer service area to be completed in 2007.

Mr. Stauber indicated that this matter was the subject of a public hearing before the Sussex Village Board on November 14, 2006. No objections to the proposed plan amendment were expressed at the hearing. Following the hearing, the Sussex Village Board approved the subject amendment.

Mr. Stauber noted that the regional land use plan indicates a year 2035 population range of 17,800 to 24,900 persons for the Sussex-Lisbon sewer service area. The estimated buildout population of the Sussex-Lisbon sewer service area, including the subject amendment would approximate 14,700 persons. It is expected that, after the major expansion of the sewer service area next year, the buildout population level for the area would be within the regional plan projection range.

Mr. Stauber indicated that the Commission staff recommends approval of the proposed amendment as consistent with the adopted regional land use plan.

A brief discussion then ensued. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Vrakas, Mr. Stauber indicated that the Village of Sussex and Town of Lisbon have come to a formal agreement on future boundaries and that the two communities are working well together toward ensuring that whatever development takes place is provided with proper sewer service. In answer to a question by Mr. Stroik, Mr. Evenson indicated that the force main extending west from the Sussex Village boundary serves only the Richmond School in the Town of Lisbon. This force main was installed some years ago to remediate an onsite sewage disposal problem at that school.

Following that discussion, on a motion by Mr. Vrakas, seconded by Ms. Brady, and carried unanimously, the SEWRPC Staff Memorandum dated December 2006 was approved and recommended to the Commission for adoption.

Sewer Service Area Plan for the Village of Caledonia

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Stauber to review with the Committee a proposed amendment to the adopted regional water quality management plan pertaining to the sanitary sewer service area for the Village of Caledonia portion of the Greater Racine sewer service area. A copy of the preliminary draft of a SEWRPC staff memorandum dated December 2006 concerning this matter had been provided to the Committee members for review prior to the meeting.

Mr. Stauber indicated that by letter dated October 4, 2006, the Racine Wastewater Utility, on behalf of the Village of Caledonia, requested that the Commission amend the Racine and environs sanitary sewer service area tributary to the City of Racine sewage treatment facility. That area is currently documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 147 (2nd Edition), *Sanitary Sewer Service Area for the City of Racine and Environs, Racine and Kenosha Counties, Wisconsin*, dated June 2003, as amended. The purpose of this amendment would be to include within the planned Racine and environs sewer service area certain lands located immediately adjacent to, but outside, the currently adopted sewer service area.

Mr. Stauber directed the Committee's attention to Map 1 in the amendment document. He noted that the area to be added is located near the intersection of CTH V and CTH K in the Village of Caledonia. The subject area encompasses 59 acres, including 51 acres considered developable and 8 acres of road right-of-way. No environmentally significant lands have been identified. Village of Caledonia plans envision commercial and residential development on the site, with the proposed residential development accommodating about 85 housing units with an estimated population of 200 persons. Including the subject amendment, the buildout population of the Greater Racine sewer service area would remain within the year 2035 population projection range embodied in the adopted regional land use plan.

Mr. Stauber indicated that the subject area is located within an area along the IH 94 corridor in Racine County for which a sewerage facilities planning study is underway. That study will evaluate the cost-effectiveness of alternative trunk sewer routes to serve lands within that corridor. The study will determine whether wastewater from the IH 94 corridor in the Village of Caledonia and elsewhere should be conveyed to the Racine sewage treatment plant easterly, via the Franksville interceptor, or southerly, via an interceptor through the Village of Mt. Pleasant, as is presently recommended in the adopted regional water quality management plan. Mr. Stauber explained that the Village of Caledonia is seeking to amend the sewer service area at this time—enabling the subject area to be served through the Franksville interceptor—in order to permit development of the subject area to move forward in the near term. If the facilities planning study determines that the southerly interceptor through Mt. Pleasant is the more cost effective way to serve the IH 94 corridor, the subject area will likely ultimately be detached from the Franksville interceptor and connected to the southerly interceptor.

Mr. Stauber indicated that the proposed sewer service area amendment was the subject of a public hearing held on October 31, 2006. No objections to the proposed service area expansion were expressed at the hearing. Following the hearing, the Racine Wastewater Utility Board approved the subject amendment.

Mr. Stauber indicated that the Commission staff recommends approval of the proposed amendment, recognizing that if the southerly conveyance route through Mt. Pleasant is found to be the more cost-effective way to serve the IH 94 corridor, the subject area likely would be detached from the Franksville

interceptor and connected to the southerly interceptor.

A brief discussion then ensued. In answer to an inquiry by Mr. Vrakas, Mr. Evenson indicated that the four local units of governments abutting IH 94 are working very closely together to see to it that whatever sewage conveyance facilities eventually are constructed are properly sized for future development. He noted that Commissioner Moyer is directly involved in those discussions as the Chair of the Town of Yorkville. Mr. Moyer commented that while the Town of Yorkville presently has its own sewage treatment plant, the other communities need additional conveyance capacity in the near future. Mr. Moyer indicated that the preliminary findings coming out of the four-community study do indicate that it will not be too long before additional sewage conveyance capacity will be needed, including capacity additions downstream toward the Racine treatment facility. That capacity, he said, will have to be fairly paid for by the communities that want to develop along the interstate highway.

Following that discussion, on a motion by Mr. Miklasevich, seconded by Mr. Moyer, and carried unanimously, the SEWRPC Staff Memorandum dated December 2006 concerning this matter was approved and recommended to the Commission for adoption.

CONSIDERATION OF SEWRPC PLANNING REPORT NO. 50, A REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE FOR THE GREATER MILWAUKEE WATERSHEDS, CHAPTER 5

Chairman Schmidt called upon Mr. Hahn of the Commission staff to review with the members of the Committee material included in Chapter 5, "Water Resource Simulation Models and Analytic Methods," of the forthcoming report. A copy of Mr. Hahn's presentation slides is attached as Exhibit A.

During Mr. Hahn's presentation, a number of questions and comments were made and addressed relating to the material presented. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Vrakas, Mr. Evenson indicated that the modeling methodology being used in the current study is conceptually not significantly different than the modeling methodology used by the Commission in preparing the original regional water quality management plan. Mr. Hahn noted that the models were built off of what was done before and that much more detailed data is now available to help ensure that the models accurately reflect real-world conditions. In response to a question by Mr. Vrakas, Mr. Hahn indicated that certain contaminants, such as mercury, which come from air pollution are not being directly addressed in the present study. The control of such contaminants, he said, lies well beyond the abilities of the governments in southeastern Wisconsin to manage, with efforts to control such pollution required to be multi-state or national in nature. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Brady, Mr. Hahn indicated that while the study did examine an alternative that would provide for sewer separation in the combined sewer area of Milwaukee, such alternative was designed in such a way to capture the "first-flush" of runoff from the road system. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Stroik relative to proposed buffer strips along water courses, Mr. Hahn indicated that the specific vegetation species that would be required in such strips in any particular area would have to be determined by land conservation professionals. Mr. Moyer commented that any kind of grass would be better than plowing to the edge of a stream.

Following Mr. Hahn's presentation, on a motion by Mr. Stroik, seconded by Ms. Brady, and carried unanimously, Chapter 5, "Water Resource Simulation Models and Analytic Methods," of SEWRPC Planning Report No. 50 was approved for publication.

CONSIDERATION OF PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF THE COMMISSION 2007 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM

Chairman Schmidt noted that copies of the final draft for the Commission's 2007 Overall Work Program (OWP) had been provided to all Committee members for review prior to the meeting. He asked Mr. Evenson to briefly review the document with the Committee.

Mr. Evenson then led the Committee through a review of the Overall Work Program, calling particular attention to several major projects identified in the document. These major projects included Project 110-1000, dealing with regional plan implementation and, in particular, efforts to integrate the regional land use and regional transportation plans into the forthcoming "Smart Growth" plans, particularly in the county-based partnership efforts underway in the Counties of Ozaukee, Washington, Walworth, Racine, Waukesha, and Kenosha; Project 120-1000, dealing with a refinement of the regional land use plan to address the availability, location, and density of housing; Project 210-1000, dealing with support for the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority and for continued assistance in the preparation of detailed transit development plans for several operators in the Region; Project 220-1000, dealing this year with significant support to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation as it conducts major preliminary engineering studies on the freeway system; Project 250-1003, dealing with the preparation of a broadband communications plan for the Region; Project 300-4000, dealing with the completion next year of the update of the Commission's regional water quality management plan for the Milwaukee area watersheds; Project 310-1000, dealing with the completion next year of the new regional water supply plan; Project 330-2000, dealing with the continued preparation of updated flood hazard mapping in Milwaukee County; Project 390-5000, dealing with work on updating the regional natural areas and critical species habitat plan; Project 420-2000, dealing with the limited 2007 regional orthophotography program; Project 520-1000, dealing with the preparation of multijurisdictional comprehensive plans; Project 780-1000, dealing with the provision of County Surveyor services under contract to five of the seven counties in the Region; and Project 600-1000, dealing with economic development planning technical support, particularly to the Milwaukee 7 Economic Development Initiative.

He then called attention to Table 12-11, which sets forth a budget summary for all of the projects included in the Overall Work Program, pointing out, in particular, where that funding summary differed from the Commission's adopted 2007 budget. Overall, he said, the work program calls for a level of effort very close to that envisioned when the 2007 budget was approved in June.

At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Evenson commented that the work program was reviewed by representatives of the Federal and State transportation funding agencies at an intergovernmental agency staff meeting held on October 31, 2006. The changes suggested by representatives of those agencies are reflected in the document presented to the Committee.

Following a brief discussion, it was moved by Mr. Vrakas, seconded by Mr. Moyer, and carried unanimously, to recommend approval of the 2007 Overall Work Program to the Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Evenson reported that there were no announcements or correspondence to be brought to the attention of the Committee.

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(Planning and Research Committee)
November 21, 2006

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on a motion by Mr. Moyer, seconded by Mr. Stroik, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip C. Evenson
Deputy Secretary

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