

Town of Franklin Comprehensive Plan Update

In January 2018, the Town Board contracted with the firm of Martenson & Eisele to update the Town's current Comprehensive Plan. Comprehensive Plans are required to be updated at least once every ten (10) years according to WI Stats 66.1001. The Town of Franklin is due for an update. This site can be used to follow along with the process provide information to the public to review. The process is expected to take about a year to complete. Comments are welcomed at any time during the planning process and can be left under the "Contact Us" section of this web site. Leave us a comment. We would be happy to respond.

Why Plan?

Planning is being prepared for what will likely happen "tomorrow," and being ready with an alternate strategy if something else happens instead.

We all do a little planning each day, each month, each year. If we didn't, our lives would likely be chaos. We plan in groups, too – at home, at work, at church, at Town Hall.

At the Town Hall we're deciding how we want our community to look, function, and feel.

"Comprehensive" means complete and wide-ranging. A community has many aspects that contribute to its success as a place to live and play and work and run a business. The role of the planning process is to consider all the various aspects and issues of the community, facilitate agreement on common goals, and lay out a path to achieve and/or react to them.

So, the "**Comprehensive Plan**" records facts, documents a vision for the future, and aids in the allocation of financial and human resources; but "**comprehensive planning**" brings people together to talk about what responsible growth looks and feels like. It encourages discussion among citizens, agencies, and governments. It is an opportunity to discuss options and develop common goals.

Comprehensive Planning Legislation

The planning legislation found in State Statute 66.1001 provides local governmental units with the framework to develop comprehensive plans and assists the community in making informed land use decisions. The framework includes nine specific elements:

1. Issues and Opportunities
2. Housing
3. Transportation
4. Utilities and Community Facilities
5. Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources
6. Economic Development
7. Intergovernmental Cooperation
8. Land Use
9. Implementation

The planning legislation also states that all communities in Wisconsin that make land use decisions (such as rezones) will need to base those decisions on an adopted comprehensive plan based on the legislation. The Town of Franklin has enforced their own Zoning Ordinance since its adoption in 1982 so a comprehensive plan is essential to ordinance administration.

As part of the process, the Town of Franklin adopted a Citizen Participation Plan. This critical step ensured Town residents would be actively involved throughout the process. We hope you want to be part of the planning process. Leave us a comment. We would be happy to respond.