

CHAPTER 8

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Introduction

While it is important to focus on the actual Town of Troy as the planning area, neighboring communities are important to look at when planning for the future. Previous chapters of the Plan: Land Use, Transportation, Housing, Economic Development, Agricultural, Cultural and Natural Resources, and Utilities and Community Facilities all play an important role when looking at making the Town of Troy and surrounding area work cooperatively and smoothly. This chapter is intended to communicate goals and coordinate plans, policies and programs to address the issues that impact all involved parties.

Units of Government Influence on Troy

The first step in coordinating cooperation between various municipalities is to identify the adjacent municipalities and some of their existing plans. The Town of Troy is surrounded by a number of municipal units of government. The following is a list of towns and cities that border the Town of Troy and the various plans those units of government may have or are working on:

St. Croix County

- Town of Hudson
 - Comprehensive Plan
- Town of Kinnickinnic
 - Comprehensive Plan (in progress)
- City of Hudson
 - Comprehensive Plan
 - Hudson Area Sewer Service Plan for 2020
- City of River Falls
 - Comprehensive Plan
 - Sewer Service Area Water Quality Management Plan

Pierce County

- Town of Clifton
 - Comprehensive Plan (in progress)
- Town of River Falls
 - Master Plan
 - Land Use Plan

School Districts

The Town of Troy is located in both the River Falls and Hudson School Districts. Each school district is discussed in more detail in this Comprehensive Plan in the Utility and Community Facilities Chapter. In 2007 the Town of Troy agreed to the annexation of 18 acres of land, by the City of Hudson, on the Town's Northwest boundary. In 2008 the Hudson School District opened, River Crest, a new elementary school on this property.

County and Regional Government Units

- St. Croix County
- West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

St. Croix County has a number of plans that may have an influence on future growth in the Town of Troy. The following is a list of the various plans developed by St. Croix County:

- St. Croix County Development Management Plan
 - This Plan was written to collect a comprehensive set of informational resources and to develop a policy framework guide to manage future development for both local units of government and the County.
- St. Croix County Outdoor Recreation Plan
 - This Plan is intended to serve as a guide for the development of parks and recreational opportunities.
- Land Information Plan
 - The purpose of this Plan is to update St. Croix County's Land Information Plan by maintaining the ongoing development of a countywide land information system by providing land related information to interested parties in an efficient and uniform manner.
- St. Croix Heartland Planning Project
 - Planning project to develop Comprehensive Plans for the following Towns: Baldwin, Cylon, Hammond, Pleasant Valley, and Stanton.

State Agencies

- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation

The Wisconsin DNR is often the regulatory agency that is responsible for the protection and sustained management of woodlands, waterways, animal habitat and other natural resources. The Town works in close collaboration with the DNR to ensure that the Town's Scenic Riverway Ordinance is in compliance with NR 118.

For more information please see the WDNR website: www.dnr.state.wi.us.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining and improving State Highway 35, the main potential commercial growth corridor in the Town. For this reason, cooperation and communication between the Town of Troy and the Wisconsin DOT are extremely important for the development of the Town.

In 2006 the Town and DOT signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the STH 35 corridor. The Town and DOT are working on a plan for future frontage roads and a half interchange at Glover Road to accommodate limited access to STH 35.

For more information please see the WisDOT website: www.dot.state.wi.us.

Existing Town Plans

Besides the Comprehensive Plan, the Town of Troy has developed and adopted other planning tools. Some of these resources are referenced throughout this Plan and will continue to be updated on a regular basis. Updating these plans is an important aspect of this Comprehensive Plan. The following is a list of plans for the Town of Troy:

- Town of Troy Growth Management Plan (will be replaced by the Comprehensive Plan)
- Subdivision Ordinance (This ordinance focuses on cluster development and the conservation of farmland/open-space, which is supported by a market driven TDR program.)
- Transportation Plan (Last updated in 2007.)
- Park Plan (Last updated in 2008.)

These Plans have been developed by the residents of Troy to assist in planning the future growth of the Town. Some policies in this Plan are to maintain and update these plans as necessary.

Current Agreements

The Town of Troy is part of the Hudson and River Falls School Districts. The Town of Troy does have some existing agreements with the adjacent municipalities. Two of these agreements include having the Town receive fire and ambulance service from both cities.

The residents of Troy are provided fire protection through the Hudson and River Falls Fire Departments. District boundaries are determined by mutual agreement between the Town and those companies that provide fire protection in the area. Overall level of service for fire protection is good. Troy is assessed a fixed cost each year from each municipality. In addition, the Town contributes to capital costs for equipment in River Falls (River Falls Rural Fire Department) and a charge is levied per call on the user.

Ambulance service is available to Troy residents through Hudson and River Falls. The Town is assessed a fixed cost per year (based on number of residents) and the user pays a fee for each call. User fees are reduced because of the Town's contribution. Ambulance service is generally good throughout Troy.

Future Cooperative Opportunities

Being bordered by a City on the North (Hudson) and the South (River Falls) the Town falls within the extraterritorial authority of both cities.

The Town strives for harmonious relationships with both Cities and generally has a working relationship with the City of Hudson. The Town may develop cooperative boundary agreements with both cities.

Town representatives meet on a quarterly basis with Town of St. Joseph, Town of Hudson, City of Hudson, Village of North Hudson, the Hudson School District and St. Croix County to discuss issues of mutual concern.

Benefits to Agreements

The Town of Troy has much to gain by being actively involved in intergovernmental cooperation. Some of the benefits are cost savings, consistency, reduction in litigation, addressing regional issues, and shared services.

Possible Conflicts

In 2000 the Town started a six year planning process with the City of River Falls to develop a Cooperative Boundary Plan. After six years of collaborative effort the City rejected a cooperative boundary agreement, causing a major setback in the planning process for both the Town of Troy and the City of River Falls. The City has since imposed a one home per 35 acre density that extends far into the Town of Troy, which jeopardizes the Town's long range goals.

Goals, Objectives and Policies

Goal 1:

Encourage adjacent government units to work together to achieve the goals of this Comprehensive Plan.

Objectives:

- Share services when it is possible and feasible for both the Town of Troy and neighboring municipalities.
- Establish agreements with adjacent municipalities that will benefit all parties involved.
- Encourage adjacent government units to adopt and implement consistent development standards, policies and review practices.

Policies:

- Promote open communication with adjacent government units.
- Develop a cooperative Park Plan among the neighboring municipalities in order to get the most efficient use out of the existing facilities.
- Update and maintain Town of Troy website.
- Work with St. Croix County to adopt a comprehensive zoning ordinance.