

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES ELEMENT

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QUALITY OF LIFE

1. What are the three most important reasons for you and your family to live in Iowa County? (Because of three selections per person the totals will be greater than 100%.)

a. Agriculture	13%
b. Appearance of homes	4%
c. Community services	3%
d. Cost of home	12%
e. Historical significance	17%
f. Low crime rate	21%
g. Natural beauty	29%
h. Near family and friends	57%
i. Near job or employment opportunities	40%
j. Property taxes	2%
k. Quality neighborhoods	9%
l. Quality schools	16%
m. Recreational opportunities	2%
n. Small town atmosphere	63%

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

3. Please rate each of the following services excellent (E), good (G), fair (F), or poor (P). Choose not applicable" (NA) if the item does not pertain to you or you are not sure about an item. "NR" means No Response

	E	G	F	P	NA	NR
a. Ambulance service	67%	27%	2%	0%	2%	2%
b. Fire protection	68%	28%	1%	0%	2%	1%
c. Garbage collection	46%	46%	5%	1%	1%	1%
d. Municipal water supply	29%	47%	17%	4%	2%	1%
e. Park and recreation facilities	40%	45%	11%	1%	0%	2%
f. Police protection	24%	47%	20%	5%	1%	2%
g. Public library	39%	46%	10%	1%	1%	4%
h. Public schools system	27%	51%	12%	2%	6%	3%
i. Recycling program	30%	54%	13%	2%	1%	1%
j. Sanitary sewer service	22%	53%	16%	4%	3%	2%
k. Snow removal	25%	40%	25%	8%	0%	2%
l. Storm water management	12%	43%	24%	7%	7%	6%
m. Street and road maintenance	7%	29%	36%	27%	1%	1%

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NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

4. The following questions ask your opinion about the importance of natural and cultural resources in your community. How important is it to protect the following?

(Your responses are Essential (E), Very Important (VI), Important (I), Not Important (NI), Not Applicable (NA) and No Response (NR).)

	E	VI	I	NI	NA	NR
a. Air quality	56%	32%	10%	1%	0%	1%
b. Farmland	36%	40%	19%	3%	0%	1%
c. Forested lands	35%	38%	22%	2%	1%	2%
d. Groundwater	63%	26%	10%	0%	0%	1%
e. Historic and cultural sites	32%	27%	31%	9%	0%	1%
f. Open space	25%	32%	34%	6%	0%	2%
g. Rivers and streams	50%	33%	15%	0%	0%	1%
h. Rural character	28%	30%	33%	6%	0%	2%
i. Scenic views and undeveloped hills/bluffs	32%	31%	28%	7%	0%	1%
j. Wetlands	33%	28%	29%	7%	1%	1%
k. Wildlife habitat	34%	30%	30%	5%	0%	1%

HOUSING

Housing is an important part of how a community grows. We would like your opinion about the development of housing in your community.

Your choices are: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), No Opinion (NO), and No Response (NR).

5. Your local jurisdiction should focus on improving existing housing quality.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
21%	46%	13%	1%	10%	8%

6. The following types of housing are needed:

a. Single family housing

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
18%	41%	9%	2%	20%	9%

b. Duplexes (2 units)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
10%	40%	16%	5%	22%	6%

c. Apartments (3 or more)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	32%	20%	8%	22%	7%

7. Affordable housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
28%	46%	10%	2%	12%	3%

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8. Elderly housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
17%	55%	10%	2%	13%	3%

9. Starter (first time buyer) homes are needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
20%	43%	16%	3%	14%	4%

10. Would you prefer housing built in a traditional design (option a) or a cluster design (option b)?

Option A (traditional design)	29%
Option B (cluster design)	57%
No response	14%

AGRICULTURE AND LAND USE

The following questions are asking for your opinion about agriculture and land use in Iowa County.

Your choices are: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), No Opinion (NO), and No Response (NR).

11. Productive agricultural land should be allowed to be used for:

a. Agricultural use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
65%	26%	1%	0%	2%	6%

b. Residential use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
4%	34%	34%	15%	3%	11%

c. Commercial use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
2%	20%	38%	22%	5%	12%

d. Any use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
6%	10%	31%	35%	8%	11%

12. Large scale farms (500 or more animal units) should be allowed to expand:

a. Anywhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
6%	16%	33%	26%	5%	14%

b. Nowhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
18%	10%	36%	11%	9%	16%

c. Outside a 2 mile radius of incorporated areas

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
15%	43%	12%	11%	9%	10%

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13. Landowners should be allowed to develop land any way they want.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	18%	43%	21%	4%	2%

14. The visual impacts (view of the landscape) of development are an important consideration when evaluating proposed development.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
32%	53%	6%	2%	2%	4%

15. It is important to require driveways that will meet standards for providing emergency services.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
29%	58%	5%	2%	4%	2%

16. There should be a minimum lot size on residential development in rural areas.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
24%	43%	18%	5%	7%	2%

17. In your opinion what should be the minimum lot size for rural residential development?

Less than 1 acre	11%
One to 5 acres	45%
5 to 10 acres	11%
11 to 40 acres	10%
40 or more acres	6%
No limitation	10%
No response	6%

TRANSPORTATION

Your choices are: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), No Opinion (NO), and No Response (NR).

18. The overall road network (roads, streets, and highways) in Iowa County meets the needs of its citizens.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
16%	71%	6%	2%	1%	3%

19. The condition of local roads and streets in your community is adequate for intended uses.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
9%	52%	27%	9%	1%	3%

20. Biking and walking are important modes of transportation in your community.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
13%	45%	24%	8%	6%	3%

21. There should be more biking and walking lanes along public roadways.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
17%	28%	30%	14%	8%	3%

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22. Rate the following in your local jurisdiction.

Your choices are Excellent (E), Good (G), Fair (F), Poor (P), Not Applicable (NA), and No Response (NR).

	E	G	F	P	NA	NR
a. Roads	5%	50%	23%	18%	0%	3%
b. Sidewalks	1%	37%	41%	15%	3%	3%
c. Bike trails	5%	35%	24%	12%	18%	6%
d. Airports	13%	44%	13%	4%	20%	6%
e. Bus service	0%	3%	4%	26%	62%	4%
f. Shared ride van services	1%	11%	18%	15%	47%	8%
g. Railroads	0%	1%	2%	15%	77%	6%

COMMUNICATION

23. Check the two most effective ways your local jurisdiction could provide smart growth information to its landowners and residents. (Because more than one response was asked for the totals will be more than 100%.)

a. Direct mailings	59%
b. Newspaper articles	44%
c. Radio	16%
d. Newsletters	27%
e. Public meetings	34%
f. Internet	11%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The following questions are asking about how you view economic development in your local community.

Your choices are: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), No Opinion (NO), and No Response (NR).

24. Commercial or industrial buildings and activities involving truck traffic and manufacturing should be located:

a. In an existing city or village

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
13%	33%	24%	7%	7%	16%

b. Near a city or village

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
19%	55%	6%	1%	6%	12%

c. Anywhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
9%	15%	30%	24%	6%	17%

25. Iowa County should work to coordinate efforts to actively recruit new businesses and industry.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
60%	30%	3%	0%	1%	5%

26. All Iowa County communities should provide at least some land with infrastructure (water, sewer, access, etc.) for industrial and commercial uses either owned publicly or privately.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
30%	45%	11%	2%	6%	6%

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27. Development at the edge of cities and villages should be required to have municipal water and sewer services.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
30%	49%	7%	1%	8%	5%

28. Iowa County jurisdictions should pursue the following energy alternatives as a form of economic development.

	SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
a. Ethanol plants	14%	33%	18%	6%	16%	13%
b. Solar energy	22%	46%	7%	2%	11%	12%
c. Wind energy	38%	42%	4%	1%	7%	7%

29. Rate the importance of the following.

Your choices are Essential (E), Very Important (VI), Important (I), Not Important (NI), No Opinion (NO), and No Response NR

	E	VI	I	NI	NO	NR
a. Agricultural related businesses	38%	35%	18%	1%	2%	5%
b. Commercial and retail development	32%	43%	18%	1%	1%	5%
c. Downtown development — main street	30%	32%	28%	5%	1%	4%
d. Home based businesses	12%	24%	35%	17%	7%	5%
e. Industrial and manufacturing development	33%	37%	20%	4%	2%	5%
-f. Tourism and recreation	38%	30%	23%	4%	1%	4%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Please tell us some things about you:

1. Gender	
Male	53%
Female	39%
No response	8%
2. Age	
18 to 24	0%
25 to 34	9%
35 to 44	19%
45 to 54	25%
55 to 64	22%
65 and older	25%
No response	0%

3. Employment status	
a. Employed full time	49%
b. Employed part time	6%
c. Unemployed	0%
d. Self-employed	17%
e. Retired	23%
f. Other	4%
g. No response	0%

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4. Place of residence	
a. Own	95%
b. Rent	3%
c. Other	0%
d. No response	1%

5. Number of adults (over 18) in household	
a. None	4%
b. One	19%
c. Two	70%
d. Three	4%
e. Four	1%
f. Five or more	0%
g. No response	1%

6. Number of children (under 18) in household	
a. None	61%
b. One	13%
c. Two	11%
d. Three	5%
e. Four	2%
f. Five or more	1%
g. No response	8%

7. Income range	
a. Less than \$15,000	5%
b. \$15,000 to \$24,999	14%
c. \$25,000 to \$49,999	31%
d. \$50,000 to \$74,999	31%
e. \$75,000 to \$99,999	8%
f. \$100,000 or more	7%
g. No response	5%

8. How long have you lived in Iowa County?	
a. Less than 1 year	2%
b. 1 to 4 years	12%
c. 5 to 9 years	8%
d. 10 to 24 years	16%
e. 25 years or more	61%
f. No response	1%

9. How many acres of land do you own in Iowa County?	
a. Less than 1 acre	67%
b. 1 to 10 acres	19%
c. 11 to 100 acres	4%
d. 100 acres or more	7%
e. No response	2%

END OF SUMMARY

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES ELEMENT

Appendix

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**City of Mineral Point
Town of Mineral Point
Town of Waldwick**

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**A Summary of Public Input
December 2002**

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On Tuesday December 3 the City of Mineral Point, Town of Mineral Point and the Town of Waldwick participated in a community-visioning program called: "**Community Vision: Looking to the Future.**" This visioning exercise took place at the Alliant Building in Mineral Point. Paul Ohlrogge of the UW-Extension Office, Amy Knox of Regional Planning and Mary Jenkins of Regional Planning facilitated this program.

Communities today face any number of pressing concerns, including requests for rezoning, demands for affordable housing or the loss of a major employer. Unfortunately, decisions about these issues are frequently made in the absence of a real vision of how the residents want their communities to look in the future.

Planning for a community's future can be a difficult, time consuming and costly job. Residents are often more concerned about daily tasks rather than think about a vision. Residents want good schools, decent jobs, safe and clean environments and safe neighborhoods in which to live. Without a vision, however, communities limit their ability to make decisions about these issues — somewhat like driving across the country without a roadmap.

Who should determine a community's future, other than its residents? Should it be a consultant hired to develop a plan, a state or federal agency making decisions on highways or wetlands preservation, or a private developer constructing a shopping mall or a residential subdivision? All these could have a large impact on a community without input from a broad range of residents. Residents need to participate in and actively envision the future of their communities — or other groups and individuals will determine it for them.

The community-visioning program lasted approximately three hours with good healthy discussions on what folks of these three municipalities envisioned their future to be. The program was broken down into three sections. The first section concentrating on: "Our Current Condition". The second portion focused on: "Challenges and Opportunities." The third portion focused on: "The Future."

What follows is a summary of information gathered during the visioning session on a series of questions posed to the group of citizens in attendance. This information, along with other information gathered from a recent written countywide survey, will be used to assist the Regional Planning Commission in drafting a comprehensive plan for the participating jurisdictions. This visioning session will help guide the future of the participating towns and villages Plan Commissions in their efforts to work towards comprehensive planning.

Section 1: Our Current Condition

The following four questions were asked to the group regarding our current condition:

1. What do you like about living in this area of Iowa County?
2. What are some of the community values?
3. What is unique about your community that is not found anywhere else?

What do you like about living in this area of Iowa County?

- The diversity
- Natural open spaces
- Rural character
- Rolling hills
- Scenic views
- The nice pastures
- Interesting architecture
- Ease of transportation
- No crime
- Sincere people
- Good people
- Good education and health care
- Good parks
- Friendly people
- Good snow removal in the winter
- Family owned dairy farms
- Owner operated businesses
- Quiet
- Like to watch the crops grow
- Outdoor recreation
- Low light pollution
- Prairie and savannah, driftless area
- Mix of people
- Springs and streams
- A lot of wild animals
- Artist community
- Libraries are valued
- Taxes could be worse
- Good roads
- Close to populated areas
- Good parks and recreation

What are some of the community values?

- Watching out for each other
- Education
- Hardworking
- Honesty
- Trust
- Freedom
- Being able to make own decisions
- Local history
- Affordable home ownership
- Open spaces
- Volunteerism
- Family farms and agriculture in general
- Family farm business
- Clean air and clean water
- Churches
- Good neighbors
- Young people

What is unique about your community that is not found anywhere else?

- Native American history
- Highway 39 to Hollandale — beautiful curves
- Orchard Lawn and the Old Opera House
- Hilly Fairgrounds
- Cornish Festival
- Geology of the area
- Lands End
- More five-point intersections than anywhere else
- Cold-water trout streams
- Twinned (Mineral Point) with another city (Redruth in Cornwall)
- More Pasties to eat than anywhere
- New road around Mineral Point
- Historic Buildings and Architecture
- Diverse art community
- Oak savannas exist here
- Not a lot of national chains (Walmarts, K-Marts etc)
- Residential downtown
- Shake Rag — Pendarvis
- Mineral Point was a key settlement in the state of Wisconsin history
- Lead mining history
- Authentic history — no need to create a theme

Section 2. Challenges and Opportunities:

The second portion of the Visioning Program focused on the Challenges and Opportunities facing the Towns of Mineral Point and Waldwick as well as the City of Mineral Point. The following questions were used to facilitate discussion on the upcoming challenges:

1. What are some of the challenges and concerns facing your community?
2. What type of development or redevelopment should occur in this area?
3. What type of development should not occur?

What are some of the challenges or concerns facing your community?

- Keeping it the way it is
- Groundwater quality
- Threat of a mega chain store to move in
- With big chain store we would lose local dollars moving through the community
- Loss of identity
- Budget cuts in local governments
- Property taxes
- Losing industry
- Infrastructure deterioration
- Attract new tax base into the community
- Affordable housing
- Affordable health care and Education
- More and better paying jobs
- Growth down the 151 corridor (no plan for it)
- Lack of vision by the elected officials
- Losing farms and farmers
- Protecting the open spaces
- Fearful of large factory farms
- Fearful of factors that we have no control over i.e. milk prices, tax assessment
- Community schools in the future.
- Find tools so farmers can have an out when retiring
- How to cross the barrier as agricultural land lost and population increases
- Water pressure for firefighters in the city
- Infrastructure keeps pace with the growing population
- Growth of the internet shopping
- Providing opportunities for young people
- Land use
- Keep all the churches operating
- Planned housing
- CWD, West Nile, Lymes Disease
- Development that does not cost more than the community can support
- Green space and protected areas
- Park facilities
- Absentee landowners
- Lack of high speed internet access
- Lack of cellular coverage
- Absentee landowners

<p><i>What type of development or redevelopment should occur in this area?</i></p>	<p><i>What type of development should not occur?</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixed use in downtown Mineral Point • Business incubator should be explored • Cluster type rural housing • Conservation sub-divisions • Historic district enlarged • Agriculture and small ag operations • Local farmers markets • Commercial development that puts relief on property tax payers and will bring in better paying jobs • Development at increasing tourism • Recreation — hunting, fishing and hiking (keep this preserved, enhanced and accessible without trouble of trespassing) • Build where you want • Explore what other types of development exists if family farms are not economically feasible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 acre rule for building a house • Houses should be on large parcels over 40 acres • Commercial business that costs their communities in terms of infrastructure dollars • Factory farms • Factories in general • Large chain stores • Absentee owners of chain restaurants • Small lot subdivisions in rural areas • Development that threatens water quality • Commercial use of our natural resources (no Perrier) • City of Mineral Point should not lose its uniqueness • Number of access points

Section 3. The Future

The final segment of the visioning process was to look ahead at a preferred vision of the future. Visioning is *a process* by which a community envisions the future it wants, and plans how to achieve it. Through public involvement, communities identify their purpose, core values and vision of the future. The following questions were asked to encourage discussion on the community's vision for the future.

1. What words do you want your grandchildren to use to describe your community?
2. What do you want to preserve?
3. What do you want your community to look like in 2022?

What words do you want your grandchildren to use to describe your community?

- Clean
- Safe
- Gorgeous
- Quiet
- Friendly
- Neighborly
- Welcoming
- Abundance of food
- Farms and farm land
- Livestock here
- Timberland
- Opportunities
- Optimistic about this place

What do you want to preserve?

- Preserve the view-scape of highway 151 — (the first impression)
- Mineral Points uniqueness
- Preserve the hills and valleys of Waldwick
- Preserve habitat for ground nesting birds
- Pastures
- Savanna's
- Safe environment
- Cultural amenities
- Preserve farms (somehow preserve the farms)
- Small businesses
- Timber and forested lands
- Preserve the hills
- Preserve historic outhouses (seriously)
- Preserve the Mineral Point swimming pool on the hill
- Look at our first list why we like it here

What do you want your community to look like in 2022?

- Unchanged and how it is now
- Good mix of green space and development
- People will have an understanding of the past
- Mechanisms in place for folks to work out differences
- Clean air and water
- Unified downtown streetscape plan
- Healthy mature trees in Mineral Point
- Iveys Pharmacy still here and in business
- Lands End still here
- Every building in the downtown area has a viable business in it
- Efficient public transportation

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES ELEMENT

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BACKGROUND

In November of 2001, the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC) prepared and submitted a Comprehensive Planning Grant Application on behalf of Iowa County and 22 local jurisdictions. In April of 2002, the Comprehensive Planning Grant from the Office of Land Information Services (OLIS) was awarded. The following jurisdictions were included in the grant application:

TOWNS	VILLAGES	CITIES	COUNTY
Arena	Arena	Dodgeville	Iowa
Clyde	Avoca	Mineral Point	
Dodgeville	Blanchardville		
Eden	Highland		
Highland	Hollandale		
Linden	Linden		
Mifflin	Ridgeway		
Mineral Point			
Moscow			
Pulaski			
Ridgeway			
Waldwick			
Wyoming			

As part of the comprehensive planning program, each jurisdiction is required to formally adopt a public participation plan. Each jurisdiction identified above as well as the County, will be adopting their own public participation plan. The public participation plans will share commonalities, but allows each jurisdiction to utilize specific public participation tools that may be best for their particular jurisdiction.

INTENT/PURPOSE

Pursuant to Sec. 66.1001(4)(a), Wisconsin Statutes

"The governing body of local governmental unit shall adopt written procedures that are designed to foster public participation, including open discussion, communication programs, information services, and public meetings for which advance notice has been provided, in every state of the preparation of a comprehensive plan. The written procedures shall be provide for wide distribution of proposed, alternative or amended elements of a comprehensive plan and shall provide an opportunity for written comments on the plan to be submitted by members of the public to the governing body and for the governing body to respond to such written comments.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Public participation efforts will be a combined effort between the local jurisdictions, SWWRPC, and UW-Extension. SWWRPC will be focusing on public participation efforts that serve the entire county as well as the cluster groups that have been established as part of the Iowa County Comprehensive Planning Process. For example, SWWRPC will be coordinating and distributing the county-wide survey, press releases and meeting notices for the cluster groups, holding county wide open houses, cluster group visioning sessions, etc. Local jurisdictions will be responsible for coordinating specific efforts on their individual local level. For example, each local jurisdiction is responsible for generating and posting local plan commission notices, posting cluster meeting notices, posting and conducting of at least one public hearing, etc.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

The table below outlines a number of ways the public can be involved in the City of Mineral Point's comprehensive planning process*.

	PUBLIC AWARENESS	PUBLIC EDUCATION	PUBLIC INPUT	PUBLIC INTERACTION	PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP
	<i>(Increasing Level of Involvement)</i>				<i>all*</i>
PURPOSE	To increase the overall awareness of the comprehensive planning process.	To provide the public with information to assist in understanding the problems, alternatives, and solutions.	To obtain feedback on issues, alternatives, and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public to ensure that concerns are consistently understood and considered.	To place decision making in the hands of the public.
METHODS OF INVOLVEMENT	<p>1. Posting Places City Hall IGA Farmers Saving Bank M & I Bank</p> <p>2. Email List Smart Growth list Chamber list</p> <p>3. Website</p> <p>4. Newspaper Articles Democrat Tribune — Jeanie Lewis coverage</p> <p>5. Chamber Newsletter</p>	<p>1. Public Education Information available at City Office Regular meetings for/with public input Public displays if project warrants this</p>	<p>1. Public Hearing Public hearings Public meetings Regular meetings for/with public input. Provide opportunity for citizens to speak and react to a proposal in a public setting before elected officials. (Note. A public hearing is the minimal requirement for public participation under the Wisconsin "Smart Growth" Law.)</p>	<p>1. Public Interaction Regular meetings for/with public input Open house with displays and/or handouts Focus groups / sub-committees</p>	<p>1. Plan Commission Meetings Better posting E-mail a. Smart Growth list b. Chamber list Democrat Tribune article or notice Chamber newsletter</p>

*Note: The City of Mineral Point reserves the right to modify the steps above and to utilize additional steps, means, and/or methods in order to gain additional public participation or understanding throughout the comprehensive planning process.