

AB608, Wisconsin Act 233 – Clarification of Smart Growth Law

This bill was signed into law in April 2004. This new law reduces the number of programs or actions with which a comprehensive plan must be consistent. Under the new legislation, the only actions which must be consistent with a comprehensive plan are official mapping, local subdivision regulation, and zoning ordinances, including zoning of shorelands or wetlands in shorelands. The bill also reiterates that a RPC’s comprehensive plan is only advisory in its applicability to a political subdivision (a city, village, town or county), and a political subdivision’s comprehensive plan.

Definitions

<u>COMMUNITY GOAL</u>	Broad, value-based statements expressing public preferences for the long term (20 years or more) that specifically address key issues, opportunities, and problems that affect the community.
<u>OBJECTIVE</u>	Measurable statements usually attainable through direct action and implementation of plan recommendations.
<u>POLICY</u>	Identify the way in which activities are conducted in order to fulfill the goals and objectives.
<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	Specific actions or projects that the town should be prepared to complete.
<u>TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM</u>	Any means used to move people and/or products.
<u>WATERSHED</u>	A watershed can be defined as an interconnected area of land draining from surrounding ridge tops to a common point such as a lake or stream confluence with a neighboring watershed.
<u>WETLAND</u>	According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, wetlands are areas where water covers the soil, or is present either at or near the surface of the soil, all year or for varying periods of time during the year, including during the growing season.

WILDLIFE HABITAT

Wildlife habitat can simply be defined as the presence of enough food, cover, and water to sustain a species.

ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING

Economic development planning is the process by which a community organizes, analyzes, plans, and then applies its energies to the tasks of improving the economic well-being and quality of life for those in the community.

LAND USE

Means of broadly classifying how land is used and how it could be used in the future.