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INTRODUCTION

Dunn at a Glance

The Town of Dunn is located directly south of the City of Madison and is surrounded by the Cities of Fitchburg and Stoughton, the Villages of McFarland and Oregon and the Towns of Blooming Grove, Pleasant Springs, Rutland and Oregon. According to the U.S. Census, the 2000 population was 5,270 residents, slightly less than the 5,274 residents in 1990. In 2000, the Town contained almost 22,000 acres with nearly 90 percent of the total area classified as agriculture and undeveloped. The Town is bisected by US Highway 51 from north to southeast and by CTH B from east to west.

Dunn has historically been a good area for agriculture. Most of the land was originally prairie or thinly timbered and was in great demand because of the ease of converting it to agricultural production. Most of the soils are very suitable for crop production and result in good yields without overly intensive management. Proximity to an urban market (Madison) for the farm commodities produced has contributed to the vitality of the farming activities, which are quite diversified and include beef, dairy, hogs, corn, tobacco, oats, alfalfa, soybeans, canning crops and others.



Comprehensive Plan Purpose

The Town of Dunn's Comprehensive Plan is an update to and replaces the Town's 1998 Land Use Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to outline the Town's land use management strategy to ensure that growth and development decisions are consistent with the Community's desired character and vision for the future. The Plan will act as a guide for the Town Board, Plan Commission, residents, landowners, developers, neighboring communities, and others as they make the decisions that will shape the Town of Dunn.

Plan Outline

The Plan is organized into two sections. The first section is a guiding policy document and consists of nine chapters that outline the goals, objectives, and policies for decisions regarding preservation, growth, and development in the Town.

The second section is the Appendix of Existing Conditions. This includes the analysis required by Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law.

Overall Planning Goals

The Town of Dunn has identified overall planning goals that they would like to achieve during this planning horizon. Those goals are:

- Preserve the town's open space and agricultural areas
- Protect the town's natural resources
- Establish boundary agreements with neighboring municipalities
- Support nature-based recreation opportunities
- Continue the town's active land use policies
- Encourage compatible infill development

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