

## Town of Cross Plains Comprehensive Community Plan Plan Development Process and Public Participation Plan<sup>1</sup>

### Purpose of Public Participation Plan

The basic purpose of this public participation plan is to provide a process through which town residents, landowners and other stakeholder groups may participate in developing the Town of Cross Plains Comprehensive Plan. Town citizens have a right to participate in development of the plan and active input of citizens and groups will produce better planning decisions. Because the decisions represented by the Plan will define what the Town of Cross Plains will look like for many years to come, public participation in the development of the plan is critical. This plan is intended to comply with Wisconsin Statutes, Section 66.1001(4)(a).

A wide variety of public participation methods will be employed to provide for broad public participation throughout the comprehensive planning process.

### Principles for the Public Participation Process

1. Active and thorough public participation will produce a better, more widely supported comprehensive plan for Dane County.
2. Public participation strategies will be designed to be sufficiently broad to address the diversity of the Town's population, and to provide the broadest possible range of citizens and groups with opportunities for participation.
3. Every effort will be made to schedule public participation activities at times and locations that are most convenient to citizens.

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<sup>1</sup> This plan is based on the Dane County Comprehensive Plan's Public Participation Plan 2002, adopted by the Dane County Board of Supervisors on January 9, 2003 which was prepared by in cooperation with UW Extension, Dane County. Significant portions of the Town's Plan quote directly from the County Plan. The Town of Cross Plains Planning Commission gratefully acknowledges the work of Dane County Planning and UW Extension, Dane County.

**Comprehensive Plan STEP 1: Pre-Planning  
(September 2008)**

1. Town of Cross Plains Plan Commission recommendation and Board of Supervisors adoption of the Town of Cross Plains Plan Development Process, Timetable and Public Participation Plan.
2. Town of Cross Plains Plan Commission will hire professional staff assistance to develop materials outlined in Step 2 and to assist the Commission in developing materials for Step 3.

General Public Participation Strategy, Education and Input for STEP 1

A significant number of public meetings have been held in 2007 and 2008 by previous and current Town Plan Commissions regarding developing a plan and hiring professional assistance. As a result, public participation for this step will consist of opportunities for citizens to comment on the Town of Cross Plains Plan Development Process, Timetable and Public Participation Plan prior to adoption by the Commission and Board of Supervisors at their regularly noticed (including notice by web posting on town web site) and scheduled meetings.

**Comprehensive Plan STEP 2: Generate Baseline Data and Planning Goals  
(September – December 2009)**

1. Professional staff and Plan Commission to review material prepared by previous Plan Commission and prepare required maps, data and other factual information required to comply with Smart Growth plan requirements. Factual information will include but not be limited to:
  - a. Documenting and distributing information on currently entitled splits used and available by parcel.
  - b. Currently active farming operations and trends within the Town
  - c. Summary of open space, natural resource, stream and groundwater protection priorities and plans of Federal, State and County that are specific to the Town.

- d. Summary of adjacent Town and Village Plans
  - e. Summary of 2007 Public Survey on Development undertaken by the Town.
2. After STEP 2 public participation, the Commission will develop Comprehensive Plan Goals in order to evaluating plan alternatives.

#### General Public Participation Strategy, Education and Input for STEP 2

Commission will use local mass media to announce the availability of the baseline data. Baseline material will be available for distribution via mail, upon request, and the Town's website. There will be at least two public meetings scheduled at different times to ensure the widest possible citizen participation. The meetings will be informational and educational presentations of the baseline data and there will be an opportunity for public input on goals and alternatives for the Comprehensive Plan based on the baseline data.

#### Comprehensive Plan Step 3: Develop Plan Alternatives

(January - March 2009)

1. The Commission and professional staff will develop plan alternatives based on the baseline data, the public input and, the goals outlined by the Commission in Step 2.
2. Commission will discuss with County Planning staff and County Board Committees the alternatives being considered for adoption by Town.

#### General Public Participation Strategy, Education and Input for STEP 3

The Commission will use the mass media to announce the availability of plan alternatives being considered by the Commission. A letter to all residents will announce the availability of these materials via mail, upon request, and the Town website. The letter will also notify residents of at least two public hearings at different times to maximize opportunities for citizen input. The letter will permit residents to request to be notified of the availability of the plan draft developed in Step 4. The meetings will be informational presentations of the alternatives and an opportunity for public input and discussion on the alternatives. The meeting will also be an opportunity for citizens to request notification of the availability of the draft

plan.

## **Comprehensive Plan STEP 4: Plan Review, Adoption**

**(April – June 2009)**

1. Commission generates a Comprehensive Plan draft
2. Commission recommends, after STEP 4 public participation, adoption of the Plan to Board of Supervisors.
3. The Board of Supervisors will, after STEP 4 public participation, adopt a comprehensive plan.
4. The Commission will

### General Public Participation Strategy, Education and Input for STEP 4

The Commission will use the mass media to announce the availability of the draft plan being considered by the Commission and the date of a public hearing prior to a Commission vote on the plan. The Commission will also notify those who requested notice of the availability of the draft plan in STEP 3. There will be opportunities to obtain the plan from the Town office and from the Town website. The public hearing will be an opportunity for public comment on the draft plan prior to action by the Commission to recommend a plan to the Board of Supervisors.

The Board of Supervisors will also hold a formal public hearing prior to adoption of a Comprehensive Plan.

## **Comprehensive Plan Step 5: (a) Implementation and (b) Evaluation**

**((a) July 2009 – July 2010; (b) on or before July 2015)**

1. The Commission will update, develop and adopt ordinances, as necessary to be consistent with the new comprehensive plan.
2. The Commission will review and revise, as necessary, the plan no later than July 2015 and no less frequently than every five years thereafter.

### General Public Participation Strategy, Education and Input for STEP 5

The updating and adoption of ordinances will use the legally required forms of public meeting notices and the Town web site for announcing agendas and seeking public input. The Commission and the Board of Supervisors will establish new ground rules for public participation in future reviews and modifications of the Comprehensive

**TOWN OF CROSS PLAINS -- COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING SURVEY 1**  
**DRAFT 12/04/07**

**(Residency)**

**1. Which of the following best describes your residency in the Town of Cross Plains?**

478 owner resident      43 non-resident land owner      15 renter      29 other

**2. If you are a resident, how long have you lived in the town?**

21 not a resident      11 less than one year      69 1-5 years  
76 6-10 years      153 11-25 years      215 25+ years

**3. If you or your family own land, how many acres do you own?**

37 not a land owner      281 10 or fewer acres      63 11 - 35 acres      76 36 -100 acres      95 100+ acres

**(Agriculture)**

**4. If you or your family rent land owned by others for farming, how many total acres do you rent?**

356 not a land renter      34 0 -100 acres      12 100-300 acres  
5 300-500 acres      5 500 – 1000 acres      7 1000+

**5. What are the uses of land(s) you or your family own or rent from others in the town? Check all that apply.**

45 not a town land owner      85 farming by family      84 rental to others for farming  
92 open lands, not farmed      223 non-farm residence      70 recreational  
14 non-farm business      3 other (list below)

**6. If you raise crops on your land, for what purpose? Check all that apply.**

76 animal feed for your use      62 cash sale      38 produce (fruits & vegetables)      0 other (list below)

**7. If you raise livestock or poultry, or do dairying, please check all that apply.**

45 dairy cattle      28 beef cattle      6 hogs      11 poultry      0 other (list below)

8. Do you think there will be growing long-term demand for agricultural crops, including those used for animal feed and for bio-fuels such as corn for ethanol and soybeans for bio-diesel, grown in the Town of Cross Plains?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
199	242	22	16	57

9. Should possible future demand for feed and fuel crops be taken into account in plans to protect agricultural production lands in the Town of Cross Plains?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
226	199	43	34	35

10. Should the Town of Cross Plains allow use of large-scale livestock or poultry operations in the town?

a) 1000+ cattle

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
21	89	142	231	56

b) 5000+ hogs

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
18	63	143	253	52

c) 1 million+ poultry

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
16	59	142	253	55

(Land use)

11. Should the Town of Cross Plains continue to support the following listed objectives of the town's original (1981) land use plan?

a) "Preserve the productive farmlands in the town for continued agricultural use."

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
278	187	39	30	21

b) "Protect farms from conflict with incompatible uses." (I.e., residential neighbors complaining about odors and noise associated with normal farm operations.)

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
254	225	30	19	29

c) "Control sporadic development."

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
277	183	39	23	27

d) "Protect the natural environment."

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
328	174	14	15	20



e) "Maintain the rural character of the town."

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
294	188	26	18	27

f) "Avoid substantial expenditure of public funds for urban development."

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
303	177	30	12	37

12. What land use objectives, if any, would you like to see added? List below

13. Do you support the town residential density policy of allowing only one new home per 35 acres owned as of May 19, 1981?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
200	161	101	59	26

14. Should the town allow development of subdivisions that exceed the one house per 35-acre density standard?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
50	130	121	217	19

15. Would you allow development of the following kinds of residential dwellings in the town?

a) Apartments?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
12	114	199	194	28

b) Retirement homes

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
37	272	105	104	32

c) Duplexes

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
15	185	168	144	31

d) Trailer courts

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
2	17	174	339	16

e) Condominiums?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
23	144	177	180	24

16. Should the town limit development on:

a) agriculturally significant land

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
273	173	57	33	22

b) ridge tops

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
190	140	151	32	38

c) wooded or forested land

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
164	143	177	43	24

d) steep and erosive slopes

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
239	180	80	27	26

17. What type of limits, if any, would you support for development on agriculturally or environmentally sensitive lands described in the above question? List below

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18. Should the town regulate ambient lighting that interferes with clear night vision of the sky?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
176	210	74	26	58

(Economic development)

19. Should the town allow home-based or small-scale business development?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
86	360	48	20	39

20. Should the town allow commercial development?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
37	220	139	106	40

21. Should the town try to control placement of:

a) Communication towers?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
239	241	45	3	27

b) Power lines?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
268	219	35	4	29

c) Other public utilities?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
234	247	35	4	34

**22. Should the town require an economic impact analysis for any proposed development?**

a) Commercial development?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
254	209	39	16	29

b) Industrial development?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
275	193	34	16	29

c) Other non-agricultural development?

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
234	214	47	15	35

**23. Should our town seek agreements with neighboring jurisdictions on future land use, public services and annexations, where these could affect parts of our town?**

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
211	275	14	13	25

(Transportation and roads)

**24. How do you rate the condition of the town roads?**

excellent	good	fair	poor	no opinion
66	380	91	11	7

**25. Do you think organized road events such as bicycle racing, group motorcycling, or car touring, interfere with your use of town roads?**

<b>YES</b>	yes	no	<b>NO</b>	no opinion
93	129	217	95	19

**26. How do you feel about traffic on the local roads?**

very satisfied	satisfied	unsatisfied	unsatisfied	no opinion
27	386	75	25	25

**27. How far do you travel each day both ways to and from your place(s) of work?**

Work at home	1-10	11-20	21-30	30+
184	91	149	70	47

**28. What is the best way to get commuters to Madison and back from outlying parts of Dane County?**  
 (Score all that apply; 1 = high approval, 2 = moderate approval, 3 = low approval.)

	Light rail	Bus	highway	Other
Sum	816	818	843	9
Count	418	412	402	5

(Town life and government)

**29. What are the three most important reasons for choosing the Town of Cross Plains as your place to live and for remaining here?** (Choose three only. Score 1 for 1st choice, 2 for 2nd choice, 3 for 3rd choice.)

Counts only below:

14_community services	316_rural atmosphere	109_quality of school district
355_natural beauty of area	79_close to employment	57_low crime rate
20_close to recreational activities	36_property tax level	126_near family & friends
75_farming opportunities	36_appearance of home	225_close to Madison
120_appearance of home site	163_family roots	24_close to lake/pond/stream
0_other (specify) _____		

**30. Are town property tax levels reasonable, given the services you receive?**

YES	yes	no	NO	no opinion
48	322	87	32	55

**31. If you have internet service, would you like to be able to access a newsletter section on the town's website, <http://www.townofcrossplains.org/> to receive updates about town activities?**

YES	yes	no	NO	no opinion
133	220	74	12	82

(Socio-demographics)

**32. Your gender?**

male	female
702	252

**33. Your age?**

18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
21	23	78	140	129	169

**34. Are you:**

in school	employed	unemployed	self-employed	retired
22	268	7	111	157

**35. Highest level of education?**

<high school	tech school	college	grad/prof
124	161	141	133

36. Principal occupation? \_\_\_\_\_

37. Secondary occupation, if any? \_\_\_\_\_

(Suggestions)

38. Add any other suggestions for the Town of Cross Plains Planning Commission, not otherwise covered in this questionnaire. Comments may also be mailed in the form of a signed letter to the planning commission, at the address shown on this form.

DRAFT

Report prepared by Jeffrey R. Baylis for the Town of Cross Plains Comprehensive Planning Commission