

CHAPTER 4: UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

I. Existing Utilities and Community Facilities

A. Town Hall:

The town hall is located at 1138 Union Road.

B. Water Supply:

Residents in the town receive their water from private wells. Currently, the town does not offer municipal water service, and does not anticipate offering water service over the 20-year planning period.

C. On-Site Wastewater Treatment:

Disposal of residential and commercial wastewater is handled through on-site wastewater treatment techniques, which include conventional, mound, pressure distribution, at-grade, holding tank, and sand filter systems. Because of the low population density in the town, there is no municipal sewer service. The town believes this will continue to be the case over the next twenty years.

D. Solid Waste Disposal/Recycling Facilities:

Curbside garbage and recycling pickup is available to town residents through a contract with a private waste disposal firm. The Town of Oregon operates a disposal site at 1067 Storytown Road. The disposal site serves Town of Oregon residents, and collects a variety of materials.

The Town of Oregon is served by the [Dane County Sanitary Landfill](#), operated by Dane County Public Works, Highways and Transportation Department. The [Dane County Clean Sweep program](#), housed at the landfill, provides for disposal of hazardous wastes.

E. Stormwater Management:

The town follows Dane County's Erosion Control and Stormwater Management Ordinance (Chapter 14 Dane County Code of Ordinances). The Ordinance sets standards for the quality and quantity of runoff from areas under construction in urban, rural and farm areas where alterations in the landscape may result in changes in the amount and quality of water running off a site.

F. Law Enforcement:

The town falls entirely within the West 4 Dane County Sheriff District.

G. Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Service (EMS):

The Oregon Area Fire-EMS District serves most of the northern and central portions of the town. The Belleville Area EMS district serves portions of Sections 18, 19 and 30, along the western edge of the town. The Brooklyn Fire-EMS Protection District serves the southern portion of the town. Other fire and medical and rescue services may also respond to emergencies in the Town of Oregon under mutual aid compacts.

H. Cemeteries:

There are two cemeteries in the town: a 1.16-acre cemetery on town-owned land north of County Trunk Highway A in Section 20, and; an unnamed cemetery in Section 15, west of Glenway Road.

I. Libraries:

Town or Oregon residents have access to public libraries in the Villages of Oregon and Belleville and the City of Fitchburg. Dane County Library Service Bookmobile services are also available in the Village of Brooklyn. All of these local libraries participate in the South Central Library Service, which provides shared collection access.

J. Schools:

The town is served by two school districts: Oregon and Belleville.

K. Parks and Recreational Facilities:

The 310-acre [Anderson Farm County Park](#), operated by Dane County Parks, provides opportunities for hiking, foraging, wildlife viewing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling. The park has a picnic area and restroom facilities.

The Town of Oregon owns and maintains [five town parks](#):

- Bicentennial Park, 845 Highway MM
- Hillcrest Park, 873 and 876 Della Road
- Kennedy Park, 4779 Kennedy Park Road
- Raven Oaks Park, 6238 Ahwahnee Court
- Town Park, 901 Glenway Road

Playground equipment is available at all town parks, except for Bicentennial Park. The Town also maintains a walking path at the end of Sheil Drive in the Hillcrest subdivision.

The Oregon School District operates [a joint-use community pool](#) at 249 Brook Street. The pool is open to Town of Oregon residents when not in use for school activities. See Chapter 3: Transportation for a description of the bicycle trails, paths and routes that serve the Town of Oregon.

L. Health Care Facilities:

The town does not contain any health care facilities. A variety of commercial health care clinics and individual practitioners in the Village of Oregon and the Village of Brooklyn also serve Town of Oregon residents. The nearest full-service hospitals are in the City of Madison.

M. Child Care Facilities:

At this time there are no childcare centers in the town. Small, in-home childcare services may exist from time to time. Two child day-care centers in the Village of Oregon also serve Town of Oregon residents.

N. Churches:

There are no churches within the Town of Oregon. A number of religious institutions are located in the Village of Oregon and the Village of Brooklyn.

O. Senior Services:

The [Oregon Area Senior Center](#) is a multi-purpose center focusing on the needs of older adults within the Oregon School District. It is a department of the Village of Oregon with support from the Village, Town of Oregon, Town of Rutland, and Dane County.

The [Aging and Disability Resource Center](#) (ADRC) of Dane County provides information about resources and support on all aspects of life related to aging or living with a disability and is a one-stop shop for older adults, people with disabilities and their families. The ADRC is also the access point for information about long-term care options and applying for public benefits. Services provided by the ADRC are free and available to all Dane County residents regardless of income or assets.

The [Area Agency on Aging of Dane County](#) serves individuals who are age 60 and over and/or their family members by providing information and assistance in accessing services that will help older adults stay in their own homes and communities.

P. Other Community Services:

The [Oregon-Area Food Pantry](#) provides food and basic necessities to needy residents of the Oregon School District.

Q. Telecommunications Facilities:

There are no cellular telecommunication towers in the town.

R. Power Plants and Transmission Lines:

Wisconsin Power and Light operates an electrical substation at the intersection of County Highway CC and South Fish Hatchery Road. There are no power plants or other major transmission lines in the town.

II. Forecasted needs for utilities and community facilities:

Due to the relatively low growth anticipated for the Town of Oregon, existing utilities and community facilities should be sufficient to meet expected demand for the next twenty years.

III. Utilities and Community Facilities Goals, Objectives and Policies

A. Goals:

1. Continue to cost effectively maintain the Town's infrastructure at a level of service desired by Town residents, farmers and businesses.
2. Continue to cost effectively maintain the Town's public services desired by Town residents and businesses.

B. Objectives:

1. Provide reasonable access to adequate and safe water for drinking and fire protection.
2. Coordinate with appropriate regulatory agencies to provide adequate and safe disposal of wastewater and management of stormwater throughout the Town.
3. Work with neighboring jurisdictions, special districts and other providers to ensure Town residents, farmers and businesses receive adequate service levels.
4. Evaluate the condition of the Town Hall, Garage and associated equipment to ensure that it will continue to meet Town needs.
5. Provide convenient solid waste and recycling services.
6. As feasible, accommodate recreational facilities of interest to town residents.
7. Cooperate with other municipalities and governmental agencies to maximize cost-efficient delivery of services.

C. Policies and Programs:

1. Protection of Groundwater. Restrict or prohibit any land uses that could damage or threaten groundwater supplies.
2. Cooperative Firefighting Assistance. Work with the Villages of Oregon, Brooklyn and Belleville and with local fire districts to ensure adequate fire protection for any Town development areas.

3. Monitoring and Maintenance of Existing Private Wells. Encourage land owners with private wells to properly maintain and monitor their wells through inspections and water testing, as necessary.
4. Proper Closing and Abandonment of Private Wells. Encourage land owners to ensure that private wells that are no longer in use are properly closed or abandoned according to Wisconsin DNR and Dane County regulations.
5. Establishment of New Urban Service Areas. Any proposed new urban service areas or limited urban service areas within the Town must be addressed as a formal amendment to this comprehensive plan. Such areas may not be submitted or approved until the Town Comprehensive Plan is formally updated and amended to incorporate such areas on the proposed land use map, and appropriate policies for the location, capacity and need for the expansion of services has been incorporated into the proposed amendment to this plan. The formal adoption/ amendment process identified in this plan must be followed in considering and potentially approving a formal amendment to this plan.
6. Emergency Services Coordination. Continue to work with neighboring municipalities and Dane County to continue to maintain adequate provision of emergency services (i.e. fire, police, EMS) for Town residents and businesses, and review service provision levels with the appropriate agency once per year sooner if necessary.
7. Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling. Annually review levels of service provided by the contracted solid waste disposal and recycling carrier, and meet with them to address any concerns raised by residents or local businesses.
8. Utility Corridors and the Town Plan. Actively participate in the planning and siting of any major transmission lines for electricity or natural gas. In the event that major transmission lines for electricity or natural gas are being proposed, work with potentially affected landowners and jurisdictions to determine if such lines can be run through the Town safely and in a manner that won't overly disrupt life in the Town. (If such an area is identified and approved, these areas should be identified on the Town Proposed Land Use Map [Map 32] through a formal amendment to this plan.)
9. Siting of Major Utility Facilities. Major power production facilities, substations, lines or other related facilities should be located in an area away from significant residential uses, high traffic area, and major livestock operations whenever possible.

10. Telecommunications Towers. No new telecommunications tower shall be located within the Town of Oregon without the owner/operator entering into an agreement with the Town that addresses the use, design, site location, overall safety and potential impacts to the Town and neighboring jurisdictions of such a facility. Such an agreement will be a condition of recommending approval of a conditional use permit to Dane County. If such an area is identified and approved, these areas should be identified on the Town Proposed Land Use Map through a formal amendment to this plan.
11. School Facilities. Continue to work with overlapping school districts to provide high quality educational facilities for Town residents, and coordinate the review of potential impacts to schools by significant developments within the Town.
12. Public Libraries. Work with neighboring jurisdictions to maintain and improve access to public library facilities for Town residents through mobile or “traveling” collections.
13. Recreational Facilities and Preserve Areas. Evaluate the need for recreational or natural preserve areas in the Town of Oregon, and work with the Wisconsin DNR and Dane County as necessary to develop and maintain these areas if established. (NOTE: If such an area is identified and approved in the future, these areas should be identified on the Town Proposed Land Use Map.)
14. Limit development of residential and commercial/industrial uses to densities that are cost-effective to serve.
15. Work to improve uniformity and availability of telecommunication and high-speed internet services to town residents. Develop policies to manage placement of cell towers to provide more uniform service, while minimizing impacts to rural character and the environment. The town should consider pre-planning and pre-approving new cell tower locations.
16. Support and expand relationships with regional cooperative organizations, such as South West Dane Outreach, to deliver needed services to town residents.
17. Support development of alternative energy, heat or cooling sources, including solar, wind, geothermal, biomass and wood. Make sure land use plans do not place unnecessary impediments to alternative energy projects.