

CHAPTER 6 - UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

INTRODUCTION

As part of the comprehensive planning program, the Town of Mitchell utilities and community facilities were reviewed and evaluated as to their current condition and adequacy to meet the present and future needs of the community. Data and information were obtained through discussions with Town Board members, Plan Commissioners, and other representatives throughout the community.

To maintain a high level of public services, the community must continually monitor and upgrade their existing facilities as population increases. The recommendations contained in this section are based on general long-range planning considerations and should not be substituted for detailed architectural or engineering studies required before expending substantial community resources and undertaking specific public works projects. The levels of accuracy of the referenced materials herein is highly subject to change (“time sensitive”) and should only be used as an initial guide/reference in establishing this plan’s initial land use needs. As time goes on, the Town should again gather updated information regarding services as it looks to modify/improve them. In some cases, greater informational detail should be gathered before approving recommendations.

66.1001(2)(d)

Utilities and community facilities element. A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in the local governmental unit such as sanitary sewer service, storm water management, water supply, solid waste disposal, on-site wastewater treatment technologies, recycling facilities, parks, telecommunications facilities, power-generating plants and transmission lines, cemeteries, health care facilities, child care facilities and other public facilities, such as police, fire and rescue facilities, libraries, schools and other governmental facilities. The element shall describe the location, use and capacity of existing public utilities and community facilities that serve the local governmental unit, shall include an approximate timetable that forecasts the need in the local governmental unit to expand or rehabilitate existing utilities and facilities or to create new utilities and facilities and shall assess future needs for government services in the local governmental unit that are related to such utilities and facilities.

SUMMARY OF INVENTORY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Providing state-of-the-art utilities and community facilities in a rural town with a limited tax base is a continual challenge. Nevertheless, respondents to the 2003 citizen input survey generally expressed a high level of satisfaction with a variety of public services.

Major services such as local roads, snow removal and garbage collection were considered adequate or above adequate. Other important services/facilities such as highways, law enforcement, fire protection, library, schools, child care, elder care, and health care — which are provided by entities outside Town government — were also deemed adequate or above adequate.

Due to changes in society and overall affluence, increases in utility usage have become a trend throughout the United States. The Town of Mitchell is no different. Recent We Energies upgrades have occurred in electric service capacity, for example.

Services/facilities in need of improvement include spotty, unreliable cellular coverage. There is also a concern about being able to attract enough volunteers to adequately staff the volunteer fire department.

There are many recreational opportunities in the Town with a large portion of the Town (38%) being in State or Federal recreational land.

The Town remains committed to providing basic services, either directly or indirectly, to its residents.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES INVENTORY

Town Board

The Mitchell Town Board consists of the Town Chairman and two Supervisors, assisted by a part-time Clerk and part-time Treasurer. The Town Board works for the benefit of citizens, recognizing that public interests must be their prime concern.

Plan Commission

The Town has a seven member Plan Commission to review, adopt, amend, and implement the comprehensive plan for the Town. The Town Board refers all matters pertaining to land use to the Plan Commission for their review, analysis, and input prior to making a decision. After a Plan Commission recommendation, the Town Board will base its decisions in light of the information contained in the comprehensive plan to ensure consistency and compliance.

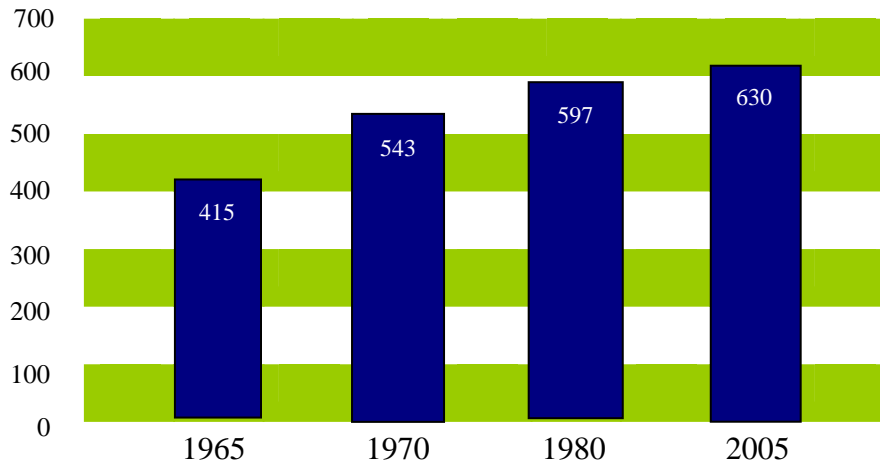
Others

The Town of Mitchell contracts out for the services of attorney, assessor, and building inspector.

PUBLIC FACILITIES INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

Electric Service

The Town of Mitchell is within the electrical utility service territories of We Energies (a/k/a Wisconsin Electric Power Company), Plymouth Utilities and Wisconsin Power and Light. Overhead transmission lines are owned by American Transmission Company. The electrical service to the Town is thought to be adequate at this time for planning purposes, with recent utility upgrades being driven not as much by population growth as by the demand for energy. Figure 6.1 illustrates the growth in energy use per Wisconsin Public Service customer over a forty year period. Although WPS does not serve the Town of Mitchell, this trend is similar to energy use in the Town. People are building larger homes and filling them with multiple electronic devices. We Energies, which is increasing its capacity by about 2-3% per year to keep up with demand throughout its service area, uses several different fuel sources to produce electricity: coal - 59.7%; nuclear - 25%; purchased power - 13.8%; renewables - 1.1%; and natural gas - 0.4%.

Figure 6.1 – Growth in Energy Use Per WPS Customer: Kilowatt Hours Per Month

Source: Wisconsin Public Service

Natural Gas

Two major natural gas lines travel through the Town Mitchell. Currently, the Town has no natural gas service provided to its residents.

Public Water System

The Town of Mitchell does not have a public water system. Residents within the Town have individual wells that are owned and maintained by individual property owners. Currently, the Town has no plans to develop a public water system. Although no formal hydrology study has been done, the capacity of the aquifer is thought to be adequate for the immediate needs of the Town, along with its projected growth forecasts. (See Chapter 2 for additional information related to groundwater.)

Sanitary Sewer Service

The Town of Mitchell does not currently have any public sanitary sewer service. For the foreseeable future, property owners within the Town will continue to be responsible for installing and maintaining their own individual septic systems. (See Chapter 2 for additional information related to soils, COMM 83, and septic systems.)

Storm Sewer System

The Town of Mitchell allows stormwater to drain through a series of ditches and culverts along its road system. This infrastructure works reasonably well as long as ditches remain clear of thick brush and culverts are properly sized. There are no curb and guttered areas within the Town, and there are no plans to add a storm sewer system, since there are no significant reported drainage problems.

Beginning in 2006, the *Sheboygan County Runoff/Erosion Control Ordinance* took effect in unincorporated towns of the County. Any land disturbing construction site activities for construction and post-construction projects of one acre or more are subject to the new regulations. This would include most new residential subdivisions.

Solid Waste and Recycling Facilities

Town of Mitchell residents are able to receive curbside collection of trash and recyclable materials. The Town contracts with J.D. Trucking of Waldo for this service. Residents pay a fee of \$11 per month to have garbage and recyclables picked up every two weeks. This service is considered adequate for the Town. Contracting with private companies is most likely to continue as the most efficient and effective way to continue these types of services.

Each year the town is responsible for maintaining an effective recycling program in order to remain eligible for a state recycling grant. In 2006, the grant amounted to \$257.91.

Open burning of waste materials continues to be an issue of concern in the Town, especially as the number of homes continues to increase. The Town will continue to try to address this issue through educational notices.

Sheboygan County annually runs a hazardous household waste collection program with Saturday drop-off sites in Plymouth and Sheboygan. Town of Mitchell residents are eligible for this program.

Telecommunications Facilities

Land-line telephone service to the Town is provided by Verizon North. There are a small number of scattered cellular tower sites located adjacent to or within the Town. Substantial areas of the Town are outside of coverage areas. Reception overall is spotty, and even within coverage areas, dips and valleys can interrupt service. Though this may be unsatisfactory in some cases, it is unlikely that tower builders and wireless carriers will engage in major upgrades in the near future due to the Town's relatively low population and density, which make it difficult for telecommunication companies to justify expensive investments in infrastructure. If, however, telecommunication companies do eventually look to increase their quality of service and range, locations for towers will likely be along major transportation corridors, such as STH 67 and 28 and high points within communities. As the need arises, the Town should work with landowners and neighboring communities in determining acceptable locations for future towers and possible co-location strategies.

Within the planning period, the town should work with the County and neighboring communities in determining acceptable locations for future towers. The sites along with their defined improvements will need to be reflected in the town's Wireless Communications Facilities Ordinance.

Although there are apparently fiber optic cables within the STH 57 corridor to the east, broadband Internet service, such as DSL, is not available in the Town. Consequently, broadband Internet service is now only available through satellite providers and in a few cases through cable.

Cable television is not readily available to the entire Town of Mitchell. The few residents that have access to cable television are located adjacent to the areas where the cable passes through the Town to service the villages of Waldo and Cascade. Time Warner currently provides the cable television to the few Town residents that subscribe. The Town has no plans for expanding cable service in the near future.

It should be noted that Town of Mitchell has the potential for siting wind generators for producing electricity due to wind sustainability. The Town has developed a wind ordinance to guide future development of this resource.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Town Hall

Mitchell Town Hall is located at corner County A and Parnell Road in the center of the town of Mitchell. The Town Hall consists of a meeting room, bathrooms, and a clerk’s office with storage for files. The Structure was built in 1898 and purchased by the town in the 1954. The meeting room is utilized for elections, Town Board, Plan Commission meetings, etc. The Town Board has appointed a committee to study options for town hall functions including the possibility of a new town hall.

Road and Other Maintenance

The Town of Mitchell contracts with the Sheboygan County Highway Department for its road maintenance needs. Special projects, such as seal coating, may be contracted out. The County shed is located in Cascade. The current maintenance system is deemed adequate for the Town. Since the Town contracts with the County, there are no vehicles or equipment owned by the Town. The only other maintenance is the Town Park which is maintained by the Town of Mitchell and Mitchell Athletic Club. Maintenance is considered adequate.

Postal Services

Postal services for the Town of Mitchell are provided primarily by the U.S. Post Office located in Cascade. This building is a small structure leased by the federal government and has front doors at sidewalk/street level that would appear to satisfy ADA requirements. Limited but adequate parking is available on the street and adjacent to the buildings. No improvements are planned for the near future. The U.S. Post Office in Adell serves a small portion of the southeast part of the Town and the Post Office in Plymouth provides service for the northern portion of Mitchell.

Cemeteries

Currently, there are three cemeteries within the Town of Mitchell. They are considered adequate and have no future plans regarding improvements. In addition, the neighboring communities of Waldo, Cascade, and Lyndon have several cemeteries for potential use.

Figure 6.2 – Cemeteries in the Town of Mitchell	
Location	Approximate Size
St. Michaels	5 acres
Mt. Pleasant	3 acres
Lutheran Cemetery on CTH F	3 acres

Law Enforcement

The Town of Mitchell does not have its own police department. Protective services are provided by the Sheboygan County Sheriff’s Department located in the City of Sheboygan. According to input from the County Sheriff’s Department, there have been no major problems enforcing speed limits or carrying out other law enforcement duties. The Department, which is currently allowed to have 39 deputies, anticipates having adequate manpower for the next five years or so, although cuts in shared revenues might create challenges. Under standard enforcement procedures, the Department can make arrests under County ordinances and State laws. In areas where the Department has been

contracted by a local municipality it can also enforce local ordinances. The Department consists of several patrol divisions, including highway patrol, motorcycle patrol, boat patrol, bike patrol and snowmobile/ATV patrol. The Department also consists of a SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) Team, a Dive Team and a Multi-jurisdictional Enforcement Group (MEG Unit) specializing in drug enforcement.

The Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department also utilizes several community policing activities. One such activity, used to educate the public, is called CounterAct, which is an active effort in place to address current and future concerns of drug abuse in the community. Several other joint activities between the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department and the community include Neighborhood Watch and Crime Stoppers, which encourage citizens to police their communities and alert the Sheriff's Department of any suspicious activities.

The Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department also utilizes several correctional facilities. The Sheboygan County Jail is located on the second floor of the Sheboygan County Law Enforcement Center, located on North 6th Street in the City of Sheboygan. The Jail is a 40-bed facility that primarily houses adult female inmates. The Sheboygan County Detention Center, located on South 31st Street in the city of Sheboygan is a 286-bed facility that houses adult male inmates. The Juvenile Detention Center, also located on the second floor of the Sheboygan County Law Enforcement Center, is a 27-bed facility that houses both male and female juvenile inmates.

The Town is served by the 911 system, which rings through to the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department, routed through the telecommunicators and relayed to emergency services. The police protection for the Town is considered adequate and the Sheriff's Department has no improvements planned for the near future.

Fire Protection

The Town of Mitchell has a mutual aid agreement with the Cascade, Beechwood and Greenbush Fire Departments for fire protection. The Cascade Department covers the entire town, while the Beechwood and Greenbush Fire Departments provide service to the western half of the town. Both departments are volunteer services and utilize a series of Pumper and Tanker trucks, in addition to rescue and other specialized equipment to fight fires. Cascade and Beechwood and Greenbush also have a mutual aid agreement with each other for assistance.

The town is served by the 911 system which is routed through the County Telecommunicators and relayed to emergency services. Telecommunicators set off tones to activate paging systems for all of the volunteer fire service in the county. Neither fire department has improvement plans for the near future. The present fire protection is considered adequate for Mitchell; however the town should continue to monitor its agreements to ensure that the best services for its residents are being provided.

Insurance Service Office (ISO) Grading

Although some insurance companies use their own system of measure, the adequacy of fire protection within much of the Town is evaluated by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) through the use of the *Grading Schedule for Municipal Fire Protection*. The schedule provides criteria to be used by insurance grading engineers in classifying the fire defenses and physical conditions of municipalities. Gradings obtained under the schedule are used throughout the United States in establishing base rates for fire insurance. While ISO does not presume to dictate the level of fire

protection services that should be provided, it generally contains any deficiencies found, and over the years has been accepted as a guide by many municipal officials in planning improvements to their fire fighting services.

The grading is obtained by ISO by its Municipal Survey Office based upon their analysis of several components of fire protection including:

- Fire department equipment;
- Alarm systems;
- Water supply system;
- Fire prevention programs;
- Building construction;
- Distance of potential hazard areas from a fire station.

In rating a community, total deficiency points in the areas of evaluation are used to assign a numerical rating of one to ten, with one representing the best protection and ten representing an unprotected community. The Town of Mitchell is currently rated at 7 by the ISO, which is not unusual for a community without fire hydrants.

Emergency Rescue Services

Rescue service/ambulance service is provided to the town of Mitchell by the Plymouth Ambulance Service and the Cascade First Responders. The Plymouth Ambulance Service is located on South Milwaukee Street in the city of Plymouth. The areas served include the city of Plymouth, villages of Elkhart Lake, Glenbeulah, Waldo and Cascade, and the towns of Lyndon, Plymouth, Mitchell, Greenbush and Rhine. The ambulance service consists of two full-time Emergency Medical Technicians, along with 38 member's on-call. The Plymouth Ambulance Service consists of three ambulances and provides transport along with intermediate care.

The Cascade First Responders are located in the village of Cascade Fire Station. The service consists of one ambulance. The town is served by the 911 system which is routed through the county Telecommunicators and relayed to emergency services. Telecommunicators set off tones to activate paging systems for all of the first responder units in the county. The town has adequate rescue/ambulance protection through agreements. Although this service is currently adequate for the town and within the near future, Mitchell should continue to monitor its agreements to ensure that the best services for its residents are being provided.

Library

Although the Town of Mitchell does not have a library located within its borders, town residents are well served through member libraries of the Eastern Shores Library System covering Sheboygan and Ozaukee Counties. The Eastern Shores Library System also provides a Bookmobile service to Sheboygan and Ozaukee counties. The vehicle makes scheduled stops throughout both counties, including Parnell twice per month. Library services are considered to be adequate.

Schools

The town of Mitchell is located within three school districts: Plymouth, Kewaskum, and Campbellsport. As of September 2004 there are no schools operated in the Town. The Parnell

School closed in June 2004. None of the school districts expect to develop facilities within the town in the near future. The fate of the Parnell School building which was turned over to the Town of Mitchell, is currently unknown. The Plymouth School District currently operates a high school, middle school, and four elementary schools and serves the majority of the Town. This district is presently conducting a long range plan for its elementary facilities.

Child Care Facilities

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, there were 65 children under five years of age living in the Town and 152 children between the ages of 5-14. With the high percentage of families consisting of dual income parents who commute to work, quality, easily accessible child care is a critical concern for these families. Currently there are no public licensed child care businesses in the Town of Mitchell. Nearby facilities are located in Random Lake (Lil' Angels Childcare), Waldo (A Children's Garden), Sherman Center (St. John's Lutheran Church), and Cedar Grove and Fredonia (Stepping Stones Children's Center). None of these facilities currently has a waiting list, which likely indicates that local child care needs are being met. Furthermore, several facilities are also located in Sheboygan, Plymouth, and West Bend.

Elder Care Facilities

The Sheboygan County Division of Aging has as its purpose to plan, coordinate, and promote services and programs needed by older adults within the County. This includes a variety of services, such as counseling, transportation, nutrition, legal and benefit advocacy, and events/activities. The Division of Aging coordinates a dining site at the Adell Senior Center every Monday through Friday, and in Random Lake one day a week at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

A countywide study of senior citizen housing needs versus public and private facility capacities has not been undertaken. Even if the current capacity of public and private facilities is sufficient to meet existing needs, it is likely that based on the aging population new and/or expanded facilities will be needed in the future. The Town should therefore consider adding an elder care facility use to appropriate districts in its zoning ordinance. In the meantime, there are a variety of care and living options in the area:

- *Retirement Community*. Self-contained housing communities designed for older adults. These communities offer meal programs and typically have a focus on social and recreational activities. Many other amenities may be available depending on the site. Facilities/Location: South Horizon Apartments, Plymouth
- *Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs)*. Refers to a facility that is able to respond to an individual's need for different levels of care as needs change. Levels of care may range from independent living to skilled nursing care. These services may also be augmented by assisted or supportive living, home health care, and/or adult day services, allowing one to select the level of care most appropriate for an individual's changing circumstances. Facilities/Location/Beds: Landmark Square, Sheboygan; Pine Haven Christian Home, 135; Sheboygan Senior Community, Sheboygan, 60; Terrace Estates, Sheboygan, 88
- *Community Based Residential Facilities (CBRFs)*. State licensed elderly group homes for five or more unrelated adults. CBRFs provide assisted living and health care services above normal room and board. A limited amount of skilled nursing care is available. The

philosophy of a CBRF is to provide a home-like environment and to keep each resident as dignified and independent as possible, while maintaining a feeling of safety and security. The environment may be a house that has been renovated or a newly constructed building with private apartments for a large number of residents. Some facilities furnish all but the residents clothing while others have the residents fully furnish the apartment.

Facilities/Location/Beds: Brookside of Wisconsin, Waldo, 8; Beechwood Rest Home, Kewaskum, 10; Gables on the Pond I and II, Random Lake, 48; Hometown Retirement, Oostburg, 15; KindredHearts, Plymouth, 15; Pine Haven Christian Home, Sheboygan Falls, 145; Woodland Manor, Sheboygan Falls, 16; Woodland View Estates, Fredonia; Belgium Gardens, Belgium, 20; Dekora Springs, Saukville, 7; Family Tree/Hamburg Home, Grafton, 12; Washington Heights, Grafton, 8; Whispering Meadows, Grafton, 8; Woodland View Estate, Fredonia, 6; and eight sites in Sheboygan, 255.

- *Residential Care Apartment Complexes (RCACs)*. Offer each resident care and services unique to his or her needs. This type of assisted living is based in individual apartments and as each person's need for care increases, services can increase accordingly. This gives residents an opportunity to remain in the apartment setting for a greater length of time. RCACs offer private residences with the features of a traditional apartment. Unit sizes vary from studio to one bedroom and larger. All units must have a kitchenette with cooking facilities. Apartments are generally furnished by the individual, however, some facilities may offer furnished or partially furnished apartments. Facilities/Location/Units: Terrace Estates, Sheboygan, 25 one-bedroom units.
- *Adult Day Services*. An option to a nursing home, these services were designed for adults who are experiencing a serious decrease in physical, mental, and/or social functioning and need a protective environment. Professional staff may include nurses, social workers, therapists, and other staff specially trained. Facilities/Location/Beds: Greendale Health and Rehabilitation Center, Sheboygan, 64; Judy's Adult Day Care, Sheboygan, 6; Project Independence/Goodwill, Sheboygan, 30; Luther Manor Lakefield Adult Day Center, Grafton.
- *Skilled Nursing Facilities*. Offer long-term care for residents who require daily assistance. Some type of rehabilitation program also usually available. Facilities/Location/Beds: Beach Health Care Center, Sheboygan, 84; Beechwood Rest Home, Kewaskum, 26; Greendale Health and Rehabilitation Center, Sheboygan, 64; Meadow View Manor, Sheboygan, 74; Morningside Health Center, Sheboygan, 72; Pine Haven Christian Home, Sheboygan Falls, 71; Plymouth Care Center, Plymouth, 60; Rocky Knoll Health Care Center, Plymouth, 158; Sheboygan Progressive Care Center, Sheboygan, 120; St. Nicholas Hospital Transitional Care Unit, Sheboygan, 15; Sunny Ridge, Sheboygan, 265.

As can be seen from the above list, *elder care facilities* mean much more than "nursing home care." According to Gunderson and Graham Healthcare Consulting (April 2, 2004 report to Sheboygan County Health Care Citizens' Task Force), the elderly are becoming healthier, better educated, more consumer savvy, and expect a variety of health care alternatives to be available to them. The least desirable option is nursing home care. In the last ten years, there has been a proliferation of assisted living and senior housing development. For local communities, especially small ones, this means it is possible to meet many of the housing needs of senior citizens without a large nursing home or similar type of facility.

Health Care Facilities

Due to its small population, there are no hospital or clinic facilities within the Town of Mitchell. Needs assessments done by private care providers have not identified the Town as a priority site for a health care facility. This is not expected to change over the course of the comprehensive plan. Residents will continue to be served by facilities located in surrounding communities such as the following:

- The Aurora Sheboygan Clinic – Random Lake and the Aurora Sheboygan Clinic – Cedar Grove are both primary care facilities specializing in family practice medicine.
- The Aurora Sheboygan Clinic – Plymouth offers family practice, general medicine, and many other specialties. Inpatient services are not offered, but emergency needs are met by an urgent care center. Aurora expanded primary and specialty care services by beginning construction on a new and larger (\$12 million, 80,000 sq. ft.) clinic in 2006.
- The Aurora Sheboygan Memorial Medical Center is available to Town residents. Located on North 7th Street in the City of Sheboygan, the medical center consists of a staff of physicians that provide services in more than 25 specialties, including obstetrics, pediatrics, orthopedics, surgical services, emergency services, rehabilitation medicine, cancer treatment services, etc.
- St. Nicholas Hospital is also available to Town residents for medical care. Located on North Taylor Drive in Sheboygan, St. Nicholas is a Catholic full-service community hospital that provides services in specialties such as: cancer, cardiac, and diabetes care; emergency services; home health; maternity; medical/surgical services; orthopedics and sports medicine; pain management; rehabilitation; and renal dialysis.
- Columbia St. Mary's Ozaukee Campus, built in 1994, is a full-service medical center located on Port Washington Road in Mequon. This facility is part of the Columbia St. Mary's organization, which includes four campuses and 26 clinics located throughout southeastern Wisconsin.

OUTDOOR RECREATION INVENTORY

Community Facilities

The Town of Mitchell currently owns one park/recreational site. The park is maintained by the Mitchell Athletic Club in cooperation with the Town.

National, State and County Facilities

There are significant tracts of land in Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 16, 17, 20, 29, 30, and 31 owned by the Wisconsin DNR. It is used for public hunting, fishing, hiking, riding, and other recreational activities. A portion of the Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution also is located in the town within Section 6.

Other Recreation Facilities

In addition to parks and facilities in Beechwood and Cascade that may be available to Town of Mitchell residents, Sheboygan and Ozaukee Counties as a whole have a variety of recreation

facilities that include the Old Plank Road and Interurban Trails, Lake Michigan, Kohler-Andrae and Harrington Beach State Parks, the Kettle Moraine State Forest, several highly rated golf courses, and areas for hunting and fishing such as the Sheboygan Marsh Wildlife Area and County Park.

UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES STRATEGY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Town of Mitchell will seek direction for this element from the vision and goals identified through the public participation process:

Vision

“The Town of Mitchell will continue a slow, planned development as a mixed residential/farm community with limited commercial and industrial development. Growth of residential development is expected to be on larger lots, lots not served by municipal sewer or water, and to result in the loss of some farmland. Agricultural uses are expected to move away from the traditional dairy farming towards niche/specialty farming or hobby farms. Commercial development in the Town is expected to be primarily from home based businesses that while generally unobtrusive can come into conflict with their neighbors. The Town of Mitchell is desirous of establishing the minimum amount of regulations that would balance private property rights with the overall community’s health and welfare including a farmer’s right to farm. ”

Strategy

The Town of Mitchell will strive to balance the Town’s current and future needs and growth with the cost of providing adequate Town services and facilities. The Town will also strive to keep the overall community character and rural nature in balance with the needs and wants of its citizens.

Recommendations

- Balance the Town’s growth with the cost of providing public utilities and community facilities while preserving its rural and agricultural nature.
- Ensure that residents have safe and healthy recreational sites within or near the Town that provide a variety of recreational activities.

Goals, Objectives, Policies, Programs

Goal 1) Balance the Town’s growth with the cost of providing public utilities and community facilities while preserving its rural & agricultural nature.

- a) *Objective:* Ensure that the Town’s community facilities and public services are maintained and sufficient to meet the needs of the Town’s residents now and for the foreseeable future.
- a) *Policy:* Continue to monitor resident satisfaction regarding services and community facilities as the population of the town changes.
- b) *Policy:* Continue to encourage the concept of “mutual aid agreements” for all public services being provided (i.e. police, fire, waste, medical, etc.).

- c) *Policy:* Oversee and review all mutual aid agreements on an annual basis to ensure that the town continues to receive effective and efficient service for the above.
- d) *Policy:* Continue to monitor the adequacy of the medical services contracted for, and continue to ensure ADA accessibility to public buildings.
- e) *Policy:* Continue to maintain the roads in the Town, and monitor traffic flows and density in the town.
- f) *Policy:* Encourage the preservation of the community identity and history, and historical resources. Protect and preserve the town cemeteries.
- g) *Policy:* Promote the continuation of communications with the school districts serving the Town of Mitchell and the Town Board and residents to ensure quality education at an affordable cost.
- h) *Policy:* Work with service providers to upgrade where needed telecommunications, electrical and gas service. Limit possible negative impacts to the community where possible through ordinances governing these services (i.e. telecommunication towers).
- i) *Policy:* Consider and monitor any possible impacts to the Towns natural resources when weighing future developments.
- j) *Policy:* Monitor and protect sensitive areas that could affect the groundwater quality from over development and prohibit all sewage systems that would affect this resource.
- k) *Policy:* Work to continue to preserve the rural and agricultural nature of the Town of Mitchell while considering growth and development of the Town.
- a) *Program:* The Town Board or their representatives should continue to work with Sheboygan county, adjacent communities, counties and school districts in order to provide the best level of services (police, fire, rescue EMS, education, recreational) on an annual basis.
- b) *Program:* Annually the Town Board or its representatives should review the service providers plans, needs or upgrades to its services and facilities and change these as needed.

Goal 2) Ensure that residents have safe and healthy recreational sites within or near the town that provide a number of recreational activities.

- a) *Policy:* Work with the WDNR, Mitchell Athletic Club and (other entities as needed) Sheboygan County in improving and/or creating new recreational facilities as needed.
- b) *Policy:* The Town should take part in any planning efforts concerning any additional recreational lands with the county, state, school districts or neighboring communities.
- c) *Policy:* Use the town's official mapping powers to preserve any areas the town designates for future park and recreational uses.

- d) Policy:* Consider utilizing the natural features within the town, for enhancing recreational opportunities.
- a) Program:* The Town Board or their representative should work with the county, school districts and adjacent municipalities in identifying area-wide recreational opportunities - especially any update to the Sheboygan County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan.
- b) Program:* Town Board or their representative should meet/work closely with adjoining neighbors to design potential interconnecting trailways to further enhance existing recreational sites.
- c) Program:* On a continual basis the Town Board or their representative should explore available resources and to contact appropriate agencies (i.e. WDNR, BLRPC, etc.) to further enhance the quality of the town's existing recreational systems/sites.