

Comprehensive Plan Summary

In the year 2000 the State of Wisconsin passed a State Statute, Section 66.1001(3) requiring that municipalities must have a Comprehensive Plan that meets the State definition by January 1, 2010 if it wants to take any action that affects land use after that date. The Plan Commission began work on such a Comprehensive Plan in May of 2002. The Planning Commission undertook a comprehensive analysis of the existing conditions, relevant studies including data collection and analysis, and provided a document entitled “Working Paper” Existing Conditions and Planning Issues - Urban Area and Extraterritorial Area. Shortly after, the City Council adopted a Public Participation Plan to encourage the public to participate in the formation and review of the Comprehensive Plan.

Throughout the preparation of the Comprehensive Plan, the City was committed to active public outreach and participation in formation and review of the Comprehensive Plan. There were numerous public meetings, newsletters, and a document entitled “Public Outreach, Issues and Identification.” Summary of public meetings and survey responses, sketch plans consisting of text and maps that illustrate development alternatives that were guided by concerns raised by residents at public meetings and in surveys was presented at public meetings for review and comment. Throughout the process proper public notices were provided for each of the meetings through the local newspaper, newsletters, cable television, radio, City website and announcements at public meetings, and posting at City Hall.

Having considered the input provided by the State, Counties, Towns, City staff, and comments heard at public meetings, the Planning Commission passed, approved and adopted on June of 2005, the City of River Falls Comprehensive Plan and forwarded it to the City Council for their review and action. In July 2005, the City Council reviewed and adopted the City of River Falls Comprehensive Plan.

It should be noted that this is not the first Comprehensive Plan adopted by the City of River Falls. Since 1960 the City of River Falls has had Comprehensive/Master Plans for the City that have been reviewed and updated approximately every 8 to 10 years. This Plan is available at City Hall, the Public Library, and on the City website.