

Intergovernmental Cooperation

Major Findings

1. The Town of Marshfield and Villages of Mount Calvary and St. Cloud have a strong working relationship, sharing each other's equipment and training together. Ambulance/rescue squad service, along with agreements with surrounding fire departments and the Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Department provide a very adequate level of fire and police services for Town of Marshfield residents.

Recommendations

1. The Town of Marshfield needs to continue to work together with villages and surrounding towns to provide efficient and effective services.
2. To become more efficient in the delivery of services, the Town of Marshfield should always be looking for ways to share services and equipment with abutting governmental units.

Goals, Objectives, Policies, and Programs

Goals

1. To continue fostering a mutually beneficial, friendly, working relationship with surrounding towns and villages, Fond du Lac County and Regional, State and Federal Agencies.

Objectives

1. Continue the coordination of emergency response services with other surrounding volunteer fire departments (through mutual aid), the Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Department, and the local Ambulance/Rescue Squad service.
2. As part of the Town's annual budgeting process, review opportunities to provide efficient and economical public facilities and services through cooperation with other units of government.

Policies

1. The Town of Marshfield shall continue to cooperate with the surrounding towns, villages, and Fond du Lac County to minimize land use and policy conflicts and achieve economies of scale.

Background Information

Guidelines for Intergovernmental Cooperation

- ❑ Wisconsin State Statutes provide guidelines for intergovernmental cooperation and boundary agreements between communities. This statute enables adjoining communities to enter into agreements that will benefit all.
- ❑ Mutual aid agreements are a type of intergovernmental cooperation. For example, fire departments use this method to extend fire protection from one entity to another. The biggest

advantage is that each fire department can share equipment and manpower in times of major fires that would otherwise limit resources or response times, which is what occurs between the Town of Marshfield, Village of Mt. Calvary, and St. Cloud.

- The Town of Marshfield has a boundary agreement with the Village of Mt. Calvary, Village of St. Cloud, Town of Russell, Greenbush, and Taycheedah.

Governmental Jurisdictions

Adjoining Communities

- The Town of Marshfield shares common boundaries with the Towns of Calumet, Taycheedah, and Forest in Fond du Lac County, and the Town of Greenbush in Sheboygan County. These communities have worked well together and have not had any land use issues between themselves. Examples of cooperation is an organized effort to efficiently snow plow roads that are on mutual borders with other municipalities and pay for the services of brush cutting equipment owned by neighboring governments.

School Districts

- Most school-age residents of Marshfield attend schools in the New Holstein Public School District Students, with area parochial schools in the area being another option.

Fond du Lac County

- Fond du Lac County maintains County Highways, the County Park and Boat Landing on Wolf Lake, and the Calvary Marsh within the Town of Marshfield.
- The only direct services from the County to the Town are Sheriff's Department patrol and law enforcement. There are, however, many indirect services, particularly in the area of judicial, health and human services.

Emergency Services

- Fire protection in the Town of Marshfield is provided by the Town of Marshfield, Village of Mt. Calvary, and St. Cloud First Responders volunteer Fire Department.
- First responder service is provided by the Mt. Calvary Ambulance Service and the St. Cloud and Calumet First Responders.

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC)

- The Town of Marshfield and Fond du Lac County are not members of the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

State of Wisconsin

- **Department of Transportation**
 - The Town of Marshfield is within the WDOT's Northeast Region, which is administered from the Green Bay WDOT office, but no state roads are within the Town of Marshfield.
- **Department of Natural Resources**
 - There are properties in Marshfield that are owned and/or managed by the WDNR.
 - The Town of Marshfield is aware of WDNR rules and regulations.

Conflicts and Opportunities

- ❑ An issue that the Town would like to discuss with the County and State is for a more equitable division of the Wind Turbine utility revenue tax. Presently, the County receives two thirds of the Wind Turbine Utility shared revenue tax, while the Town gets only one-third share. Because the Town provides more services to the Green Field Wind Farm as compared the County, it is felt that two-thirds of the revenue should come to the Town.
- ❑ When any significant conflicts occur with other communities or governmental agencies, initial attempts to address the conflict will involve written and face-to-face communication. If initial attempts are not successful, the Town will consider other methods, including mediation, arbitration, and other dispute resolution techniques as described in Wisconsin State Statutes 802.12.
- ❑ Town of Marshfield officials have demonstrated, through past and current planning efforts, that they are willing to proactively engage in discussions with other government officials to promote and enhance opportunities. Town of Marshfield leaders are encouraged to continue this practice in order to best maximize local efforts and minimize potential conflicts.