

TOWN OF ATLANTA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

9. Implementation

Overview

The overall planning process has resulted in the review of information and background data relating to the past, present, and future of the Town of Atlanta. Key statistical data and other trends have been reviewed and discussed pertaining to future impacts on all aspects of the town. As a result of this review and discussion, the Implementation Chapter sets forth identified actions and policies intended to advance methodologies to address issues and direction, but with the included identification of key groups for implementation and timeframe for execution of the actions, each action statement truly has direction as to which to begin its overall implementation.

Throughout the life of the comprehensive plan key action statements contained within this plan will be completed. In addition, as change is inevitable, new action statements not prioritized for inclusion in this plan will be identified and may need to be considered as it relates to new circumstances.

9.1 Plan Consistency

Wisconsin's comprehensive planning law (Wisconsin Statutes, Section 66,1001) states that beginning on January 1, 2010, if a local governmental unit engages in any of the following actions (see list below), those actions shall be consistent with the local governmental unit's comprehensive plan.

- Official mapping established or amended under ss.62.23(6)
- Local subdivision regulation under ss.236.45 or 236.46
- County zoning ordinances enacted or amended under ss.59.69
- Town zoning ordinances enacted or amended under ss.60.61 or 60.62
- Zoning of shorelands or wetlands in shorelands under ss.59.692, 61.351 or 62.2131

Rusk County has adopted, by ordinance, both shoreland zoning and land subdivision regulations. As a result, by January 1, 2010 actions resulting from those ordinances must be consistent with the Town of Atlanta's adopted comprehensive plan. The overall development of the town comprehensive plan is one of the first steps in the process of reviewing, modifying and developing, where necessary, changes to ordinances where potential inconsistencies may exist.

Development of the comprehensive plan was done so in a way in which integration of information and data was reviewed within and between plan chapters, in so much, this integration was intended to make the chapters consistent with one another. Key to this

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integration and consistency was also the review of other known county, state, federal, and other organizations plans that may be applicable to the Town of Atlanta.

9.2 Mechanism to Measure Plan Progress

Implementation progress made in relation to the Town of Atlanta's Comprehensive Plan will be measured based on progress towards achieving its goals and objectives and implementing the identified actions. The overall measurement will be focused on accomplishing the specified actions. The listed actions identify what is to be completed, who the key groups are for implementing the action statement, and when action is to be completed. It is possible that some actions may not have a specific end target date, but rather a continuous or ongoing work element. It is recommended that Planning Commission and/or other appropriate committee review the plan's objectives and actions periodically, in an effort to realize its accomplishments and identify where modifications may be needed.

9.3 Future Updates

From time-to-time the Town of Atlanta may need to make revisions and amendments to individual or multiple chapters of the comprehensive plan. When making necessary revisions or amendments, it is recommended the process follow the adopted Public Participation Plan and 66.1001 (4).

At a minimum, the comprehensive plan shall be updated no less than once every 10 years. An update shall also follow the Public Participation Plan and requirements set forth with 66.1001 (4).

9.4 Programs and Implementation Tools

A key component is developing a more detailed work plan to address the comprehensive plan's goals, objectives, and actions. The work plan should assign responsible parties and specific timelines. This will be the first implementation item.

9.5 Summary

Housing

Goal: Promote a diversified, affordable, and safe housing stock that meets the needs of current and future residents.

Objectives:

1. Support the development of housing units that meet the needs of current and future residents.

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2. Promote the development/maintaining of housing to meet the needs of an aging population
3. Promote the development/maintaining of properties that are suitable for first time home buyers and new residents to the Town.

Actions:

- A. Promote/publish various organizational events to help residents, unable to do the work themselves, with home upkeep.
- B. Monitor effect of housing/development on Town

Transportation

Goal: Strive for a safe, maintained, and adequate transportation system that supports a variety of users and grows the economy of the Town.

Objectives:

1. Support the maintenance and improvement of existing transportation assets.
2. Promote a variety of transportation methods.
3. Encourage the development and growth of State and County transportation corridors in the town.

Actions:

- A. Identify State and Federal funds to develop, maintain, and/or expand various transportation systems.
- B. Develop a maintenance plan for transportation assets
- C. Monitor the population's transportation needs.
- D. Communicate with the appropriate State and Regional entities to ensure that the Town of Atlanta's transportation system is coordinated with surrounding transportation systems.

Utilities & Community Facilities

Goal: Support the maintenance and development of area utilities and community facilities that serve residents and property owners of the Town of Atlanta.

Objectives:

1. Work with utility and telecommunication companies to plan for future development and expansion.
2. Encourage the utilization of existing community facilities.
3. Promote the adoption and utilization of new technologies and green/energy efficient methods by utilities, and implementation of community facilities.

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Actions:

- A. Work w/ intergovernmental agencies which oversee these assets

Natural, Agricultural & Cultural Resources

Goal: Protect, preserve, and efficiently utilize natural resource in the town, as well as provide employment and recreational opportunities. Promote the preservation of historic and cultural resources of the area.

Objectives:

1. Promote the responsible use of Town of Atlanta resources.
2. Protect natural resource from pollution and degradation, and encourage proper land/timber management by government and private owners.
3. Seek and promote educational opportunities for people to learn more about historical and cultural resources.
4. Encourage an agricultural presence in the town.

Actions:

- A. Work to promote development and agricultural practices which protect surface and groundwater quality, including proper erosion control, manure management, and storm water management practices.
- B. Work with the Rusk County Historical Society and other organizations interested in the preservation of historic and cultural resource.
- C. Work with Rusk County on formulation of the County Forest Management Plan and Land and Water Conservation Plan.
- D. Support education opportunities for residents and property owners that provide natural resource conservation practices, proper land management, agri-business issues, and historic and cultural resource understanding.

Economic Development

Goal: Promote, attract, and maintain the expansion and development of the economic base in the Town of Atlanta.

Objectives:

1. Encourage the growth of new job opportunities and higher paying job opportunities in the Town of Atlanta.
2. Promote the development of manufacturing and industry where infrastructure is readily available.
3. Promote the education and skilled training of the work force.
4. Encourage the start-up of new business and the retention of existing businesses.

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Actions:

- A. Watch for new opportunities for business growth and encourage the pursuit of emerging technology companies.
- B. Monitor the availability of suitable sites for industry to attract companies.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

Goal: Encourage and promote intergovernmental cooperation between the various governmental-tax payer supported entities internal and external of the Town of Atlanta.

Objectives:

- 1. Promote having active communication channels between governmental agencies.
- 2. Work to eliminate duplication of services by governmental entities internal and external of the Town of Atlanta.
- 3. Encourage State and Federal agencies to eliminate unfunded mandates on local bodies.
- 4. Work with other governmental bodies to accurately inform the public of current policies and practices.

Actions:

- A. Work with other governmental entities to address the goals and objectives found in this plan.
- B. Encourage cooperation among municipalities to find efficiencies in service delivery and cost savings.
- C. Be proactive in resolving current and potential conflicts with other government entities.

Land Use

Goal: Work in cooperation with municipal bodies and the public to promote development and land use that is sustainable and compatible and also respects private property rights.

Objectives:

- 1. Promote communication between government entities and the property owners.
- 2. Monitor land use activities within the Town and region for public sentiment and emerging trends.

Actions:

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- A. Review the need for and update current ordinances and regulations as deemed necessary.
- B. Maintain the comprehensive plan so that it is consistent with existing ordinances and regulations.

9.6 The Future

The Town of Atlanta Comprehensive Plan was developed in order to comply with State Statutes and also to assist the town in making decisions moving forward based on projected change and historic data. The plan was not intended to provide every detail on the town, but a snapshot in time of historic data, current conditions, and the projected future. The landscape and environment change daily, affected by happenings within the Town, and by outside influences. However the plan allows the town to provide some guidance to components contained within (Housing, Transportation, Economic Development, etc.) in order to provide some shape and direction.