



# STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN 2040 UPDATE

**DNR Review Version 2.0** *(Track Changes June 2023)*

*Prepared with the assistance of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission*



## STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN 2040

prepared for:

Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee

by:

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

adopted:

Xxxxxxx XX, 2023

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This Plan was prepared at the request and under the supervision of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee and Portage County Planning & Zoning Department by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC). For more information, contact:

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
210 McCLELLAN STREET, SUITE 210  
WAUSAU, WI 54403



Telephone: 715-849-5510

FAX: 715-849-5110

email: [staff@ncwrpc.org](mailto:staff@ncwrpc.org)

[www.ncwrpc.org](http://www.ncwrpc.org)



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## **SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 PURPOSE**

This plan updates and supersedes the 2007-2027 Steven Point Urban Area Sewer Service Area Plan, which is a formal element of Wisconsin's Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (AWQMP) for the Wisconsin River Basin. This plan was prepared by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) with the support of the Portage County Planning & Zoning Department. This plan delineates the sewer service boundary for the Stevens Point Urban Area and lists the institutional structures, policies and procedures to implement the Sewer Service Area Plan.

The sewer service boundary identifies the geographic land area within which sanitary sewer service is acceptable, including delineation of environmentally sensitive areas to be excluded from sewered development to protect water quality, and intergovernmental jurisdictional issues and processes to enable cost-effective sewer service through the year 2040<sup>2</sup>.

In addition to delineating a sewer service boundary, the Sewer Service Area Plan provides a framework for future planning at each individual municipal level. The data, trends, projections and findings developed in this Plan are consistent with the community plans for the City of Stevens Point, the Villages of Park Ridge, Plover and Whiting, and the Towns of Linwood, Hull, Plover and Stockton. The goals and policies updated during this planning process update and supersede those of the previous sewer service area plan and are to be used in the development of local policies concerning land use within these communities.

The Sewer Service Area Plan:

- establishes the geographic boundaries for possible sanitary sewer service to the year 2040<sup>2</sup>;
- updates the existing institutional structure and processes for reviewing boundary and plan amendments and for conducting conformance reviews for sewer extensions at the local level;
- serves as a framework for community land development decisions;
- identifies environmentally sensitive areas (ESA) excluded from publicly sewered development to protect water quality in accordance with federal law and state statutes and administrative code. ESA delineations influence community development patterns, directing growth outside of these areas to protect water quality. Preserving environmental amenities also enhances and builds upon existing social, cultural and economic value in local communities.
- is a formal element of Wisconsin's Areawide Water Quality Management Plan and its implementation is therefore required to be in conformance with the state's water quality management plans and Wisconsin River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) documents and implementation plans.



## **1.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA**

The planning area for the Stevens Point Urban Area 2040~~2~~ Sewer Service Area Plan is shown in Map 1. This area includes the communities with public sewer systems, the City of Stevens Point and the Villages of Plover and Whiting, along with the surrounding communities into which sewer service might be extended over the time horizon of the plan. These communities include the Towns of Linwood, Hull, Plover and Stockton. The Village of Park Ridge is currently served by the Stevens Point system. All of the communities lie within Portage County. The planning area identifies the area of study for data collection and mapping and encompasses a total land area of approximately 124,330 acres. An understanding of the growth and development trends affecting the surrounding communities is necessary for a good planning process.

## **1.3 REASONS FOR AN UPDATE TO THE 2007-2027 SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN**

The existing sewer service area plan was not causing any issues for new developments in the urban area and no boundary amendments have been required. However, the plan is reaching its planning horizon, and local officials deemed it was time for an update. This would allow for the reassessment of new development over last 15 years and account for current growth trends.

For example, both the previous Sewer Service Area Plan and local community comprehensive plans identify that future development will expand into “good agricultural land” around the fringe of the urban area.

Since the previous SSA plan, some additional “good agricultural land” has been developed, primarily in relation to continued expansion of the Portage County Business Park and the Crossroads Commons retail center just to the east of Interstate 39. However, this has been relatively limited, consisting of primarily lower tier ag-lands that would require intensive irrigation. The bulk of the prime ag-land lies further east of the urban area.

Long-term as the urban area continues to grow, it will likely experience the need to expand further into some of these prime agricultural lands. This factor is recognized in the sewer service area planning. Good agricultural lands are specifically not defined as environmentally sensitive areas for the purposes of the SSA plan based on findings that development limitations on these lands are not deemed significant enough to preclude sewered development and are not restricted from the sewer service area. This is not to detract from the importance and value of these types of lands to the culture and economy of the County and local communities. Preservation and protection of ag-lands remains a local policy decision that is implemented through comprehensive planning, zoning and the Wisconsin Farmland Preservation Program.

## **1.4 FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK**

Federal legislation for areawide water quality planning was enacted under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendment of 1972 (Public Law 92-500), commonly known as the Clean Water Act and subsequent amendments in 1977 and 1987. These Acts set the framework for state and national water quality management programs with the goal of making the nation's waters safe for fish and aquatic life uses, recreational use, and human consumption (e.g., fishable, swimmable and drinkable). Congress mandated that this goal be achieved through a comprehensive program of water quality planning, municipal wastewater treatment facilities, and a national discharge permit program for municipal and industrial wastewater discharges. A key section of the Act(s) requires the preparation and implementation of Areawide Water Quality Management Plans.

Pursuant to these congressional mandates, the Wisconsin Legislature created chapters 281.11, 281.12 and 283.83 of the Wisconsin Statutes which gives the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) the state-level authority to act in the role of a delegated agency for the USEPA in the implementation of the Clean Water Act. Under this authority, Chapter NR121 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code was established specifying the policies, procedures and requirements for Wisconsin's Areawide Water Quality Management Plan program.

Under this framework, the USEPA together with the state of Wisconsin, has designated three water quality planning areas: Dane County, the seven county Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Area, and the Fox Valley Water Quality Planning Area. Within these "designated planning areas" every community with sanitary sewer is required to participate in sewer service area planning. Outside of these heavily populated metropolitan areas, there are 26 "undesignated" sewer service areas with populations over 10,000. In the Central Wisconsin River Basin, sewer service area planning is conducted by Marshfield, Merrill, Stevens Point, Wausau and Wisconsin Rapids. All plans (often referred to as 208 or sewer service area (SSA) plans) developed under this program must be approved by the WDNR and certified as amendments to the state's AWQMP through formal action by USEPA.

## **1.5 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLANNING ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Under NR 121.03 (8) "designated management agency" means any agency in an areawide water quality management plan having responsibility for implementing specific plan policies or duties. This may be done through direct activities of the designated management agency or through delegation to other agencies or units of government. Within the context of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Area Plan, the following agencies are involved:

City of Stevens Point/Village of Plover/Village of Whiting – As owners of the local wastewater treatment facilities, these communities serve as the designated management agencies for the purpose of sewer service area planning. The municipal

wastewater utilities provide primary oversight of sewer service area administration; however, their Council/Boards have final approval authority.

Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee - is made up of representatives from the City of Stevens Point, the Villages of Park Ridge, Plover and Whiting, and the surrounding towns, including: Linwood, Hull, Plover and Stockton. The advisory committee provides oversight on the development of the Sewer Service Area Plan updates and continues to act on recommendations for boundary amendments other plan amendments (non-boundary) and plan updates. See the Appendix for the Bylaws created to provide the organizational structure for the committee.

Portage County Planning and Zoning Department - acts as the administrative agent for the Sewer Service Area Plan implementation. Responsibilities include reviewing proposed sewer extensions for plan compliance and providing recommendations regarding service area amendments.

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) - conducts plan update development processes for the sewer service area plan. Acts as a neutral third party in coordinating between the communities and Portage County.

## **1.6 INTERRELATIONSHIPS: SEWER SERVICE AREA PLANS, FACILITIES PLANS, WISCONSIN RIVER WATERSHED PLANS**

In Wisconsin, the WDNR is the delegated agency for Clean Water Act implementation. WDNR implements water quality programs in part through the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (AWQMP) Framework, which is a compilation of guidance and programs to implement the Clean Water Act.

Certain elements have individual processes that are automatically certified as part of the state's AWQMP, and other elements are transmitted in annual letters from the WDNR to the USEPA as formal updates to the state's AWQMP. This process varies in terms of public participation, time frames and procedures. All elements are connected, and the Agency strives for consistency and continuity of programs for quality resource management.

Federal regulations (40 CFR 130.6) require that the AWQMP Programs address the following elements:

- Total maximum daily loads—learn more about [TMDLs](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/tmdls/).  
(<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/tmdls/>)
- Effluent limitations—effluent limits are covered under the [WPDES program](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Wastewater/DischargeTypes.html) administered by WDNR.  
(<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Wastewater/DischargeTypes.html>)
- Municipal and industrial waste treatment—see DNR's [Wastewater Program](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/) for more information. (<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/>)



- Nonpoint source management and control—learn more about DNR’s [Nonpoint Source Pollution Program](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Nonpoint/aboutNPSprogram.html).  
(<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Nonpoint/aboutNPSprogram.html>)
- Management agencies—see information about applicable laws, policies, guidance, and memoranda of agreement/understanding. [[Regional Planning Agency and local SSA Planning](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/planning/ssaplanning.html)].  
(<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/planning/ssaplanning.html>)
- Implementation measures—DNR implements various measures to carry out the AWQMP within the individual [water quality programs](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/index.html).  
(<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/index.html>)
- Dredge or fill program—DNR certifies dredge and fill permits (issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers) through its §401 certification program.
- Ground water—visit DEQ’s [Ground Water Program](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Groundwater/index.html) for more information.  
(<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Groundwater/index.html>)
- [Watershed plans](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/surfacewater/wqmplanning.html)—learn more about assessments and surface water planning.  
(<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/surfacewater/wqmplanning.html>)

These elements are addressed in numerous programs that span WDNR's water division. Additional components of the state's AWQMP include integrated reports, administrative rules, surface water monitoring and assessment programs, water quality standards and wastewater treatment programs.

Locally, these elements are reflected through a variety of planning requirements, including: watershed plans, facilities plans and sewer service area plans. The relationships between these plans within Central Wisconsin is described below and illustrated in Map 2.

### 1.6.1 WATERSHED PLANS

The Central Wisconsin River Basin is one of 32 major river basins in the State. The basin is comprised of the watersheds for each of the tributaries that drain into the Wisconsin River. Watershed plan development is on-going around the state in the highest priority areas based on the levels of water quality impairment. The primary purpose of watershed plans is as a management guide for federal, state and local actions such as grant awards, conditions for waste treatment discharge permits and identification of specific local planning and action recommendations.

### 1.6.2 FACILITIES PLANS

In contrast with the regional character of watershed plans, the facilities plans are limited to a local area within a major river basin. The facilities plans deal with the planning and preliminary design related to the construction of municipal sewage treatment plants.

Through a systematic evaluation of alternatives, the facilities plan is intended to assure that only cost-effective and environmentally sound treatment facilities are constructed.

### **1.6.3 SEWER SERVICE AREA PLANS**

The Sewer Service Area Plan is also a local area plan that outlines procedures, land areas and decision criteria for ensuring cost-effective provision of public sanitary sewer. Unlike the facilities plan, which is an engineering plan for the treatment plant and collection system, the Sewer Service Area Plan identifies land areas projected for development with public sewer based on population projections, community growth trends and natural resource constraints.

### **1.7 GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF THE SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN**

- 1) The Sewer Service Area Plan shall be consistent with the requirements of Wisconsin Administrative Code NR121 "Areawide Water Quality Management Plans".
- 2) The Plan shall be generally consistent with the land use policies and recommendations of locally adopted comprehensive plans.
- 3) The Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee shall oversee the development of the Plan and be responsible for all public policy aspects of the Plan.
- 4) Opportunities for public participation, including a public hearing per NR121.08, will be provided as part of the development of the Sewer Service Area Plan.
- 5) Portage County Planning and Zoning will serve as the designated agent for administration of sewer extension reviews and sewer service area amendments.

### **1.8 OVERVIEW OF PLANNING PROCESS AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

This Sewer Service Area Plan update was conducted by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) in conjunction with Portage County. Development was overseen by the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee which is made up of duly designated representatives of each community in the service area, as follows:

- Joel Lemke, City of Stevens Point
- Steve Kunst, Village of Plover
- Jake Wilcox, Village of Whiting
- Steve Menzel, Village of Park Ridge
- Dave Wilz, Town of Hull
- Howard Krieski, Town of Linwood
- James Garbe, Town of Plover
- Jeanne Dodge, Town of Stockton

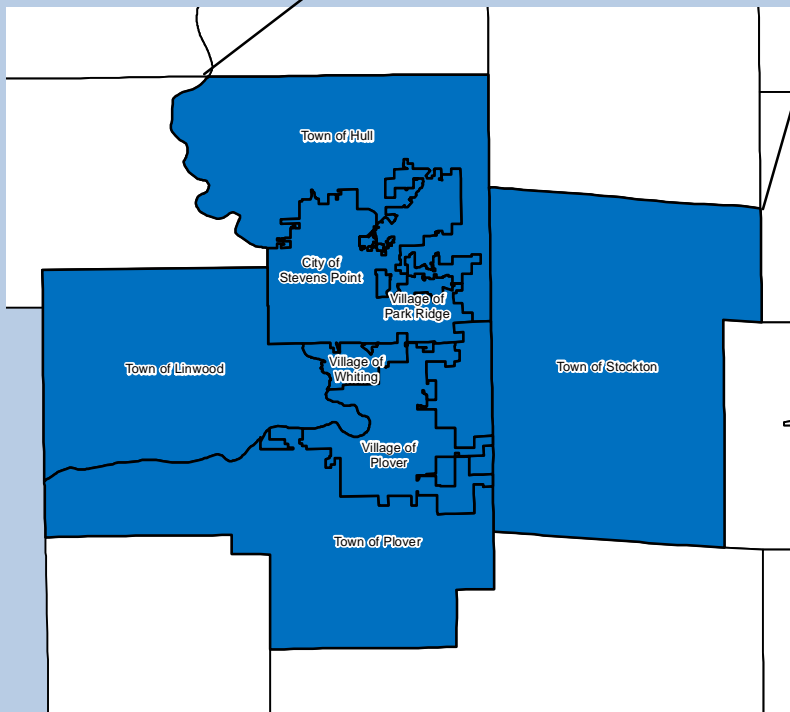
The process involved planning meetings of the Advisory Committee to develop a draft plan update. The committee also held a formal public hearing on the proposed plan. The committee meetings and the public hearing were open to the public and posted per Portage County standard notice procedures.

The final plan adoption process involved the local communities moving the plan through committees/commissions to full Board/Council at regularly scheduled, open and noticed meetings. Approval process documentation can be found in the Appendix.



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Map 1  
Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Area  
Study Area



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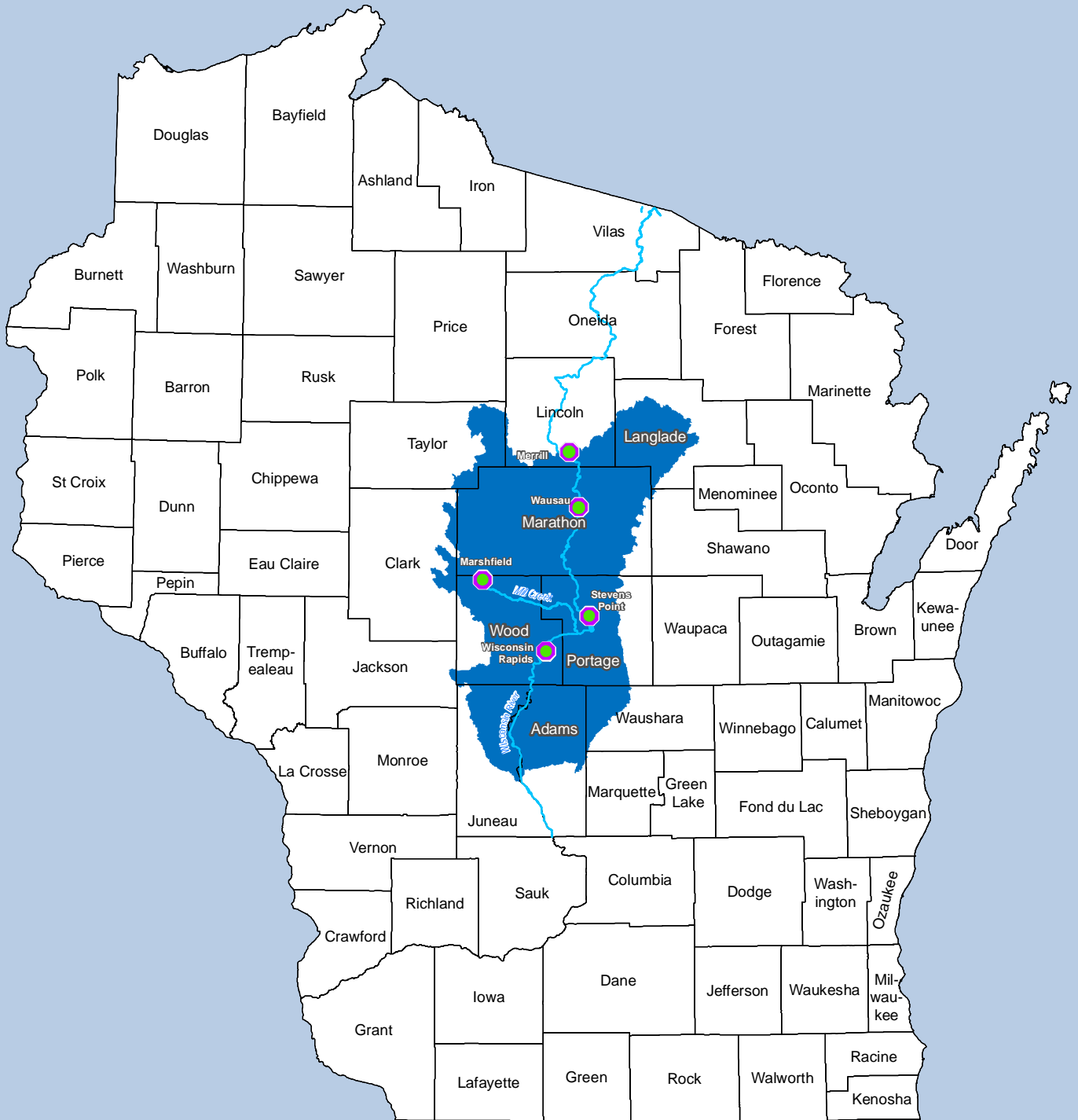


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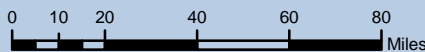
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# Map 2 Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Area Water Quality Plan Relationships



- Facilities plans for municipal wastewater treatment
- Sewer Service Area Plans
- County Boundaries
- Central Wisconsin River Basin Planning Area



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Prepared by:  
**North Central  
Wisconsin Regional  
Planning Commission**  
210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403  
(715) 849-5510 [www.ncwrpc.org](http://www.ncwrpc.org)

## **SECTION 2.0 LOCAL PLANS FOR WASTEWATER FACILITIES**

### **2.1 BACKGROUND ON FACILITIES PLANS**

A local wastewater facilities plan (often referred to as a 201 plan) identifies the facilities, programs, operational improvements, and policies necessary to meet the regulatory framework and permitting requirements. The WDNR regulates municipal (and industrial) operations discharging wastewater to surface water or groundwater through the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit program.

State statutes that apply to facilities planning and operation include: Chapter 227 on Administrative Procedure and Review, Chapter 281 on Water and Sewage and Chapter 283 on Pollution Discharge Elimination. In addition, a variety of rules have been promulgated into Wisconsin Administrative Code by the WDNR to implement these statutes. Plans for wastewater treatment facilities must be reviewed and approved by the WDNR. Section 281.41, Wis. Stats. requires WDNR review of municipal and industrial treatment plant construction plans as well as related monitoring systems and groundwater monitoring wells.

This section provides a status report on the current municipal wastewater collection and treatment systems in the Stevens Point Urban Area and their respective facilities plans.

### **2.2 EXISTING WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND COLLECTION SYSTEMS**

Currently, there are three wastewater treatment systems within the Stevens Point Urban Area located in the City of Stevens Point, the Village of Plover and the Village of Whiting. Table 1 provides a basic summary of the design capacity and loading information for each plant.

<b>TABLE 1: Capacity/Loading Information - Area Treatment Plants</b>			
	Stevens Point	Plover	Whiting
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD):			
2021 Average -	5,355 lb/day	4,694 lb/day	207 lb/day
Design Rated -	10,300 lb/day	7,950 lb/day	590 lb/day
Total Suspended Solids (TSS):			
2021 Average -	6,699 lb/day	5,275 lb/day	201 lb/day
Design Rated -	10,400 lb/day	9,380 lb/day	450 lb/day

*Source: Stevens Point, Plover and Whiting Wastewater Utilities, 2022.*



Facility managers for each plant indicate that there is ample capacity to accommodate anticipated future growth and even potentially major new unanticipated users depending on the type and strength of wastewater to be generated. Development proposals are monitored and evaluated to ensure the plants can handle the wastewater they will generate before they are approved. Currently, both City of Stevens Point and Village of Plover plants are each operating at about 50% capacity while Village of Whiting plant is only at about 1/3 capacity due to the closure of a major industrial user.

In addition, each community periodically conducts systematic evaluations and facilities planning to ensure their plant will remain able to provide for future growth as it develops. Section 2.3, below, provides an overview of the current status of facilities planning for each plant.

### 2.2.1 CITY OF STEVENS POINT COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM

Stevens Point's wastewater treatment plant was first constructed in 1940. In 1963, a major expansion was made to the treatment plant consisting of adding two additional aeration tanks and a blower building and replacing the mechanical aerators with compressed air aeration. Many minor upgrades were also made. Two variable speed raw sewage pumps having a maximum capacity of 3,000 gpm replaced a 500 gpm and 1,000 gpm pump. Also, a piston sludge pump was installed along with two digested sludge lagoons.

Another addition was made to the treatment plant in 1972. The modifications primarily consisted of two comminutors, a bar screen, additional raw sewage pumping capacity, two primary settling tanks, two aeration tanks with two new blowers, a clarifier, a chlorine contact tank and chlorination building, three new Return Activated Sludge (RAS) pumps, a sludge division box, conversion of one existing primary tank to a waste sludge thickener, one new digester, and one new sludge lagoon.

Beginning in 1992, the treatment plant underwent a major reconstruction. The new design eliminated old technology and incorporated new, more modern technologies. The comminutors were replaced by mechanically cleaned bar screens. Chlorine disinfection was eliminated and replaced by Ultraviolet (UV) disinfection. Grit removal was added to reduce wear and tear on pumps and associated equipment. Sludge storage lagoons were replaced by more environmentally friendly, sludge storage tanks.

In 1997, the activated sludge system was modified to facilitate enhanced biological phosphorus removal (BPR). The new activated sludge operation utilizes the anaerobic / oxic (A/O) process which incorporates biological phosphorus removal into the original activated sludge system.

A series of improvements beginning in 2003 were implemented to address plant efficiency and energy conservation. These improvements started with new grit removal and fine screening equipment which handle the incoming solids more effectively. Also, two 50 hp plant air compressors were replaced with one 15 hp unit which uses much

less electricity. In addition, two 15 hp channel aeration blowers were shut down and replaced by new piping to utilize excess process air. Further, anaerobic digester sludge thickener efficiency was increased by installing supplemental heating of polymer dilution water and equipment that increased mixing for more effective dispersal of the polymers. Also, a water to water heat exchanger was installed to allow methane generated hot water to be utilized to heat 3 buildings. Additionally, a heat pump is now being used to tap into the heat and cooling available from the effluent water before it is discharged to the Wisconsin River. This is used to heat and cool the facility's lab and office building.

The City wastewater utility also accepts high strength wastewater for treatment. Over two million gallons are processed through the plant annually, generating significant tipping fee revenue.

The Stevens Point sewage collection system is a network of sewers used to collect liquid waste for subsequent treatment and disposal, [see map in Appendix D](#). The majority of the sanitary sewer collection system was installed between 1920 and 1980. The network currently consists of more than 114 miles of 8" to 48" sewer pipe and has 14 lift stations. The collection network and treatment facility serves the entire developed area within the City of Stevens Point, as well as the Village of Park Ridge.

The sewage collection system is in fair condition, however, inflow and infiltration (I/I) is an on-going concern with significant infiltration during wet weather. The City has a computer-generated preventative maintenance program and each of the lift stations are checked and maintained at least once per month.

### 2.2.2 VILLAGE OF PLOVER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM

The Plover wastewater treatment plant was originally constructed in 1986. It was upgraded in 1998 to provide biological phosphorus removal. Another upgrade in 1999 constructed auto-thermal aerobic digesters and upgraded preliminary treatment systems. An upgrade in 2010 added aeration capacity, upgraded the phosphorus removal process and several other plant systems.

Wastewater enters the preliminary treatment building and flows through a fine screen which removes large debris from the wastewater before a grit removal system. The wastewater then falls into a wetwell and is pumped to the mixing basins by five submersible pumps. The mixing basins are a series of four tanks with mixers that keep solids in suspension. The tanks provide conditions that enhance bacteria's ability to remove phosphorus from the wastewater and Return Activated Sludge (RAS) is introduced into the tanks to provide for the removal of excess nitrogen.

The mixture flows from the mixing basins into aeration basins where blowers blow air through a fine bubble aeration system mixing in oxygen and bacteria that consume the organic matter as food. The mixture leaves the aeration basins and flows to the oxidation ditch consisting of three channels. The first channel has four surface aerators

around the ditch. The mixture moves to the other channels through submerged ports. Two disc aeration shafts provide aeration across channels two and three.

The mixture exits the oxidation ditch and flows to either of two clarifiers through underground piping. As the mixture moves through the clarifiers, the activated sludge settles out. It is collected and returned to the mixing basins. Effluent from both clarifiers is combined in the effluent collection well. Water flows from the collection well to the disinfection system. The disinfection system is operated from May 1 through September 30. Clarified water flows past lamps that emit light at the ultraviolet wavelength. Light at this wavelength disrupts cellular function and kills the bacteria or leaves them incapable of reproducing. UV disinfection system effluent flows about 1200 feet through underground piping to the Wisconsin River.

A chemical feed system provides backup to the biological phosphorus removal system. Liquid chemicals that bind and precipitate the phosphorus can be added if the biological removal method does not work properly

Excess activated sludge, called Waste Activated Sludge (WAS) is generated by the process. WAS is diverted from the RAS stream to aerated storage tanks. The WAS is pumped to a gravity belt thickener which separates the water from the bacteria by draining the water through a finely woven belt. The WAS is thickened to 4% to 6% solids. Thickened WAS is discharged into the auto-thermal aerobic digesters. Heat is generated by the bacteria as the WAS decomposes. This heat is retained in the digesters and elevates the temperature in the tanks to 100 to 120 degrees. These digesters consist of three tanks. Each tank has a propeller mixer and fine bubble aeration diffusers mounted on the floor. Air is pumped through aeration system, providing oxygen for the decomposing bacteria. Digested sludge flows through the digesters in series. Digested sludge exits the auto-thermal digesters and flows to aerated storage tanks. Digested sludge is pumped from the storage tank to the screw press. Water is removed from the sludge as it moves through the screw press. Chemicals are injected into the digested sludge to increase the water removal efficiency. The sludge is discharged at about 16% solids content. It is moved to a covered storage area and stored until it is applied to agricultural land in spring and fall.

The Village wastewater utility also accepts hauled septage and landfill leachate for treatment. In 2020, about 7.9 million gallons of holding/septic tank waste and about 5 million gallons of leachate was processed through the plant.

The wastewater collection system serves the developed area of the Village, [see map in Appendix D](#). The system consists of approximately 92 miles of sewer main and ten lift stations. The lift stations are central collection points for a service area. Wastewater flows by gravity to a lift station. It is then pumped via force main to the service area of the gravity interceptor, or, in two cases, to the service area of an intermediate lift station. The gravity interceptor carries the wastewater to the treatment facility. There are two pumps in each lift station, which cycle on and off automatically. Nine of the ten lift stations are of similar design. They consist of two submersible pumps that are installed

in the collection well. The remaining lift station has two pumps situated adjacent to the well.

Infiltration through leaks into the collection system and intentional discharge from sump pumps has been an issue. The Utility continues to dedicate resources to finding and excluding the sources of clear water infiltration into the system. The collection system is cleaned on a three-year cycle.

### **2.2.3 VILLAGE OF WHITING COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM**

The Village of Whiting's original wastewater treatment facility was completed in 1967. The facility was upgraded in 1981 and again in 2009. Modifications made to the original treatment facility included: an activated sludge process to remove 96% of organic and inorganic materials from the wastewater. Preliminary treatment occurs via fine screening and then the influent goes to mixing basins which were added in the 2009 upgrade to promote biological phosphorus removal. Alum addition is utilized for further phosphorus removal. Effluent is then treated via an oxidation ditch, which was added in the 2009 upgrade, and proceeds to final clarification. An additional final clarifier was installed in 2009 and the original final clarifier was rehabilitated in 2021. Effluent is disinfected seasonally with UV radiation prior to discharge to the Wisconsin River. Activated sludge is treated in aerobic digesters and thickened via polymer addition and a screw press or drying beds. The sludge is landspread on DNR approved fields.

The majority of the Whiting sanitary sewer collection system, [see map in Appendix D](#), was installed between 1963 and 1964 and consists of approximately 12 miles of sewer pipe and three lift stations. The Whiting treatment facility serves the entire developed area within the Village and does not accept hauled septage or leachate at this time.

The sewage collection system is in good condition. Deficient sewer pipes and collection system manholes are rehabilitated as needed. There is a negligible amount of clear water infiltration. The Village has a 33% / year maintenance program for sewer cleaning and inspection.

## **2.3 STATUS OF LOCAL WASTEWATER FACILITIES PLANS**

The City of Stevens Point's current wastewater facilities plan was completed in 2011 by Donohue and Associates, Inc. This plan focused on efficiency improvements and energy conservation. Plan recommendations included a new high strength receiving station, lift station rehab, and other modifications, rehab and improvements around the plant, including upgrades to the supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems. Currently, all of the recommendations have been implemented and the City is considering commissioning a new facility planning effort to address emerging issues and new technologies.

The Village of Plover’s current wastewater facilities plan was completed in 2009 by AECOM. This plan guided the last major plant upgrade in 2010 as well as on-going improvements culminating with completion of upgrades to the supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems in 2020. The Village is planning for a new facility planning effort that will focus on tertiary treatment to ensure compliance with future effluent phosphorus discharge limits.

The Village of Whiting’s current wastewater facilities plan was completed in 2005 by Earth Tech, Inc. This plan addressed peak flow capacity issues, aging of existing facilities and other operational challenges. Recommendations involved upgrading many of the existing facilities and adding a new oxidation ditch. Overtime, the Village has implemented many of the upgrades. Currently, the Village has no specific plans to begin a new facility plan.

Each facility plan evaluated several treatment alternatives and recommended the most cost-effective alternative with minimal environmental impact on the planning area. The selected alternatives have addressed system deficiencies and increased capacity for both the City and the Villages.

One alternative considered in each of the facilities plans was regional treatment, or regionalization, where a plant is decommissioned, and the sewerage is pumped to one of the remaining facilities. Regionalization can have positive benefits under the right circumstances. However, documentation in each of the plans show strong opposition to the regionalization option. A number of adverse environmental, political and social impacts were identified and determined to be significant enough to reject the regionalization alternative.

Today, each treatment plant in the Stevens Point Urban Area is performing well with ample capacity to provide for future growth. Each is working to meet new effluent requirements, and compliance is not anticipated to be a problem. Internally, each facility is also working to address the “next big thing” whether that be nitrates, PFAS or something else and preparing for their next wastewater facilities plan update.

## **2.4 PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS FOR NON-SEWERED AREAS**

The most prevalent soil type across the study area is Plainfield Loamy Sand. This soil is characterized as rapidly permeable and may constitute a moderate limitation for on-site sewage disposal systems because of the potential of contaminating groundwater. This limitation would not apply in areas served by municipal sewer.

An exception to the Plainfield soil are the soils in northern areas of Stevens Point, which are denser formed from residual bedrock material that is close to the surface. These soils are subject to heaving and swelling due to frost action, thereby presenting potential problems to urban development. Further complications can be expected by the presence of bedrock in the same area.

Another exception is a band of Friendship soils which extends across the area south of the Village of Plover. These Friendship soils are characterized as saturated within 3 to 5 feet of the surface. These conditions combined with rapid permeability may present a more severe limitation for on-site sewage disposal systems.

Private onsite wastewater treatment system regulations are implemented by Portage County through its Private Sewage System Ordinance (Chapter 7.9 Portage County Code of Ordinances). Some of these soil conditions present in the non-sewered areas surrounding the urbanized area may require alternative on-site systems such as a mound or holding tank depending on local site conditions.

As noted above, the Stevens Point and Plover wastewater treatment plants accept and treat hauled waste from these areas as well as other parts of the state. Private haulers of septage can apply for permits to drop their waste loads for treatment on an individual basis. Specific holding tank service areas are not defined to maintain flexibility of choice for local residents, private contractors and the treatment plants. Volume and strength of incoming waste is carefully monitored to maintain optimal treatment plant operations.



## **SECTION 3.0 AREAWIDE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND LOCAL WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS**

### **3.1 BACKGROUND ON AREAWIDE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLANNING**

WDNR is required by section 303(e) of the Clean Water Act to develop a Continuing Planning Process (CPP). The CPP may be described as an umbrella that coordinates all aspects of water pollution control to help ensure the states maintain progress toward protecting and preserving water quality. The state CPP is a description of the state's water quality management and planning activities, providing references to technical documents and sources that explain water quality programs in greater detail. The CPP describes ongoing processes and planning requirements of the state's Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (AWQMP).

Water quality planning in Wisconsin occurs on many levels in many agencies. Each plan begins with monitoring to evaluate the health of Wisconsin's waters. Biologists and trained volunteers collect monitoring data on representative segments on rivers, streams and lakes across the state. Water quality data are then evaluated against water quality standards to assess conditions. WDNR staff conduct studies to better define pollutant loads, sources and impairments and to develop plans that identify management activities and strategies to enhance and protect our waters.

The AWQMP is not a single plan or document but rather a compilation of the guidance and programs that DNR uses to implement Clean Water Act requirements. The AWQMP Program provides a structure and foundation on which implementation activities are attached, including Sewer Service Area Plans, Wastewater Facility Plans, permits for effluent limits, stormwater plans and other projects funded through CWA monies, as well as watershed plans, which identify the condition of water and recommendations for management actions.

Watershed Plans (formerly called "Basin Plans") document and summarize the condition of health of water resources within the area. Watershed plans incorporate information on current and changing land use, population change, water resource potential and assessments of current conditions based on biological, physical and chemical data compared to established water quality standards and thresholds.

Watershed plans identify ecological restoration and remediation priorities and goals of the waters and watersheds and provide recommendations for specific management actions including rivers, lakes, nonpoint source grants, monitoring, and additional management actions. Watershed plans are updated on a rotating basis, with a higher priority, targeted focus on areas with known issues related to restoration, protection or management.

The CPP encompasses the broad picture of how decisions are made, how programs relate, and how the public is involved. Wisconsin's AWQMP concerns how programs are implemented, particularly within a specific basin or watershed - through monitoring, assessments, grants, and more. Watershed plans apply the rules, programs, guidance, and identify opportunities for management actions at a catchment (basin/watershed) and water level (stream, lake, etc.).

The Stevens Point Urban Area lies within the Wisconsin River Basin, and all three wastewater treatment plants discharge to the Wisconsin River. The most recent planning by the WDNR for the Wisconsin River Basin is focused on the Wisconsin River TMDL which is cataloged in the report titled Total Maximum Daily Loads for Total Phosphorus in the Wisconsin River Basin.

### **3.2 WISCONSIN RIVER TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL)**

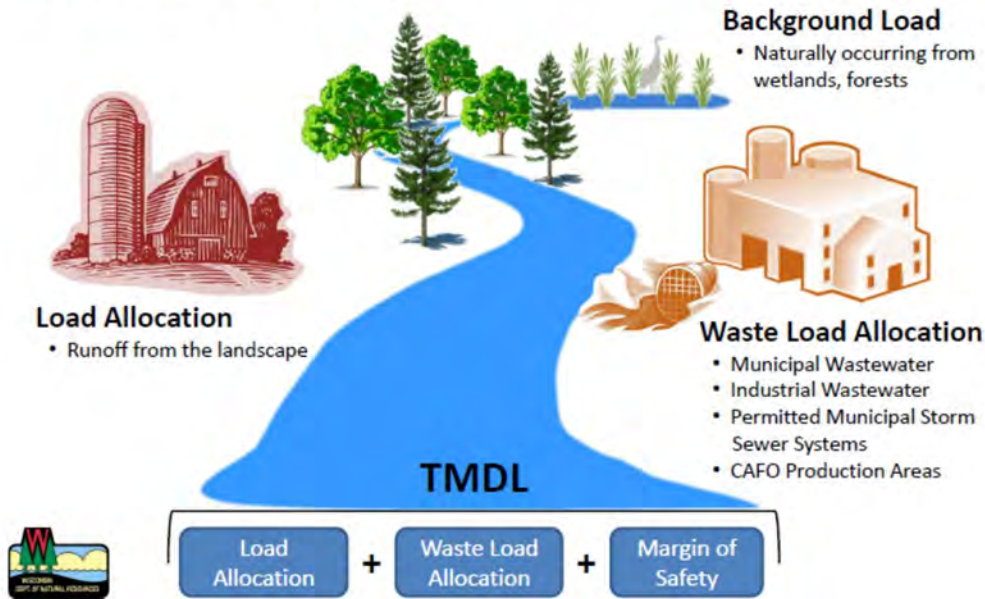
In recent years, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' efforts in planning for and managing water quality within the Wisconsin River basin have revolved around the development of a total maximum daily load or TMDL. The Wisconsin River TMDL study area applies to a large area from the river's headwaters in Vilas County to Lake Wisconsin in Columbia County, covering 9,156 square miles – approximately 15 percent of the state.

TMDLs were created by the Clean Water Act in the 1970s, but were not implemented or enforced by EPA until the late 1990s when a string of lawsuits challenged EPA's inaction. The Wisconsin River TMDL process began in 2009 with an extensive water quality monitoring process throughout the watershed to provide data for detailed watershed and reservoir model development. The TMDL report was completed in April of 2019, and various implementation components are underway.

A TMDL is the amount of a pollutant that can be discharged into a waterway and still meet water quality standards. In the Wisconsin River Basin, the TMDL includes the total amount of phosphorus and suspended solids that can be discharged into the river, its tributaries and reservoirs, and still meet water quality standards. Under existing conditions, many reservoirs and tributaries in the Wisconsin River do not meet water quality standards due to excess pollutant loads, meaning they are not suitable for their designated uses, such as fishing, wildlife habitat, and/or recreational activities such as boating and swimming. The TMDL concept is illustrated in Figure 1.

# FIGURE 1 WRB Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

Each subwatershed is assessed for:



## 3.3 DISCUSSION OF WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS IN THE STEVENS POINT AREA

The natural water quality in most areas of Portage County is generally good. Where natural water quality problems exist, they include aesthetic concerns such as iron and manganese, and health concerns such as radionuclides, corrosive water and nitrates. Information on water quality conditions in Portage County was taken from the County’s Land and Water Resource Management Plan.

The Stevens Point Urban Area lies within the Wisconsin River Basin. The basin is divided into a number of watersheds, several of which encompass the urban area. The primary watersheds that the municipal wastewater treatment facilities are located within are the Mill Creek Watershed and the Little Plover/Plover River Watershed. The basin contains multiple impaired waters and has a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) established. The northwest section of Portage County drains to the Wisconsin River and has primarily surface water management problems due to less coarse soils of the region. These conditions cause excessive runoff, resulting in flashy streams and long term saturated soil conditions. Best Management Practices (BMPs) can improve and protect valuable soil, water, and wildlife resources. Streambank areas throughout the County have been fenced to protect them from livestock. Since 2014, 14,861 feet of fencing have been installed voluntarily ~~without an ordinance~~.

Groundwater availability in the northwest part of the County is limited because of the crystalline rock that is near the surface, making potable water difficult to develop. However, the groundwater in the central plain area is easily accessible. Portage County has developed a groundwater management plan to aid in the management and protection of groundwater.

Residential development around lakes and streams has impacted water quality and aesthetics. Several lakes have experienced low oxygen conditions in the past, affecting the fish populations. Green areas, buffer zones, and possibly sewer systems could be incorporated into developments to reduce nutrient delivery. A lake management planning program has been completed and is currently in the implementation phase. The increased use of these lakes has also led to the introduction of aquatic invasive species (AIS). Portage County has utilized grant opportunities and partnered with Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) to provide information and education prevention campaigns.

### 3.3.1 WISCONSIN RIVER BASIN

The western two thirds of Portage County drains to the Wisconsin River and is included in the Wisconsin River TMDL for phosphorus. This TMDL was developed by the DNR and approved by U.S. EPA per the Clean Water Act in April 2019. The TMDL is largely driven by the need to reduce algae blooms on downstream lakes and reservoirs. Local stream water quality varies in the county, with streams west of the Wisconsin River having higher phosphorus levels than those east of the river. The impaired waterbodies addressed by the TMDL include one of Wisconsin's two largest inland lakes, Petenwell. Reducing phosphorus loading to local surface waters acts not only to protect and improve local water quality and local economies which rely on clean water, it also benefits these downstream impaired waters.

The Upper Wisconsin River is divided into three sub-basins: the Upper, Central, and Southern. Portions of the Central and Southern sub-basins are within Portage County, and the Stevens Point Urban Area lies within the Central Sub-basin which extends from the Whiting Dam upstream to the City of Merrill. The section of Wisconsin River in Portage County receives discharges from three municipal and four industrial wastewater treatment facilities. Its waste load is allocated from the Whiting Dam downstream (out of Portage County) to the Petenwell Dam. Waste load allocation is intended to maintain surface water quality standards during periods of low flows and high temperatures within a River segment. Computer modeling is used to establish discharge limits, which are then divided among dischargers in the River segment.

Toxic contaminants are a concern and have been detected in water, fish, and sediment samples throughout the River. Micro-contaminants in fish tissue have been detected. Fish have been collected for analysis in Portage County below the Stevens Point Flowage and at Lake DuBay. Currently, part of the Wisconsin River from the Whiting Plover Dam to the Biron Dam is an advisory area for PFOS and mercury.

### 3.3.2 MILL CREEK WATERSHED

The Mill Creek Watershed Implementation Plan (i.e., Nine Key Element Watershed Based Plan) was approved by both WDNR and U.S. EPA in May 2019 and will be used to help implement the Wisconsin River Basin TMDL.

Mill Creek has been listed by the U. S. EPA as degraded 303(d) waters due to lack of dissolved oxygen for extended periods. The watershed includes 165 square miles in eastern Wood and western Portage Counties. About 101 square miles of the watershed are within Portage County. Mill Creek is 57 miles long from its mouth at the Wisconsin River to its headwaters, which is near Marshfield. About 18 miles of Mill Creek are within Portage County.

Five municipal wastewater treatment plants discharge to Mill Creek or its tributaries. These include: Marshfield, Blenker-Sherry, Junction City, Hewitt, and Milladore. Junction City is the only WWTP in Portage County that discharges to Mill Creek. The treatment plants are sources of nutrients. Coordination with Wood County will be necessary to improve water quality in the Mill Creek watershed. Sixty-four square miles of the watershed and 39 miles of Mill Creek are in Wood County.

A voluntary, non-regulatory farmer led group, Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed Council, was formed in 2016 and is working toward improving the water quality of Mill Creek. ~~The Council's goals are:~~

- ~~• Further educate on phosphorus best management practices with the goal of improving water quality of the Mill Creek in Portage and Wood Counties.~~
- ~~• Focus on adopting more environmentally friendly farming practices that will ensure clean water and healthy soils for future generations while maintaining or improving profitability.~~
- ~~• The ultimate goal of the Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed Council is to be stewards of environmental sustainability for the land and water in the watershed.~~

### 3.3.3 LITTLE PLOVER/PLOVER RIVER WATERSHED

The Little Plover and Plover River Watershed includes 195 square miles in eastern Marathon and northern Portage Counties, with small portions in western Langlade and Shawano Counties. About 89 square miles of the watershed are within Portage County. The Little Plover River is six miles long, from its mouth at the Wisconsin River to its headwaters. It is entirely within Portage County. It has one dam on it, which creates Springville Pond. The Plover River is 64 miles long from its mouth at the Wisconsin River to its headwaters, northwest of Aniwa. About 16 miles of the Plover River are within Portage County. It has four reservoir forming dams on it: McDill Pond (262 acres), Jordan Pond (85 acres), Christensen Pond (19 acres), and Bentley Pond (75 acres).

The Little Plover River and its basin have been extensively studied. Numerous studies directed at surface water, groundwater, and land use have been completed. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) has conducted water quality monitoring of seven sites along the Little Plover River since 1971.

Groundwater concentrations of nitrate-N above the enforcement standard of 10 mg/L have been documented in the monitoring wells since 1980. Because the Little Plover River is groundwater fed, the source of nitrate in the river is thought to be groundwater. Excess nutrients are also affecting Springville Pond by contributing to nuisance aquatic plant growths, mainly Eurasian Water Milfoil. Phosphorus is the limiting nutrient in Springville Pond.

The impacts of the high in-stream nitrate concentrations are unknown. However, nitrate concentrations of two mg/L have been shown to cause increased mortality of rainbow trout fry and eggs. The Little Plover River is a Class I brook trout stream (naturally reproducing population), and numerous habitat improvement projects have been done to help improve the fishery. The effects of nitrate on brook trout are unknown, but declining water quality may threaten the trout population, despite the habitat improvement work.

Pesticides have also been detected in surface and groundwater in the Little Plover River Basin. Eight pesticides or pesticide metabolites were detected in groundwater in a 1995 and 1996 study conducted through the UWSP.

The loss of water quantity is another concern in the Little Plover River basin. Municipal wells of the Villages of Plover and Whiting are within the basin. In addition, there is a high density of high-capacity wells for irrigated agriculture in the area. This results in large quantities of groundwater being pumped from the aquifer. Water used by the municipalities is lost from the watershed. Once residents use the water, it flows to a treatment plant and is discharged to the Wisconsin River.

A portion of the Little Plover River dried up for several weeks in 2005, 2006, and 2007. The Little Plover River Workgroup meets approximately twice a year to address issues in the watershed. The Workgroup is made up of representatives of the Friends of the Little Plover River, Villages of Plover and Whiting, Towns of Buena Vista, Plover, and Stockton, UWSP, DNR, Portage County, Trout Unlimited, Del Monte, several area potato and vegetable growers, and WI River Alliance, along with advisory support from the WI Wildlife Federation, WI Geologic and Natural History Survey, U. S. Geological Service (USGS), and U. S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS).

The sandy soils of the watershed make it extremely susceptible to groundwater contamination. Land use practices are greatly influencing groundwater and surface water quality and quantity.



## **SECTION 4.0 PLANNING AREA GROWTH PROJECTIONS**

### **4.1 INTRODUCTION**

Communities regularly develop and use population projections for various reasons, including local comprehensive plans, facilities plans for municipal wastewater treatment, and others. The methodology used to generate projections can sometimes skew the numbers in favor of a particular outcome. To avoid such bias, regulatory applications of population projections may specify the required projections or methodologies to be used. This is the case with the sewer service area planning program in which WisDNR regulations require use of the latest official state population projections developed by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA).

The current DOA projections extend municipal populations out to the year 2040. These DOA based population projections serve as the base from which the various calculations and projections for the sewer service area were developed for this plan.

### **4.2 HISTORICAL POPULATION GROWTH**

According to the 2020 Census, the incorporated core of the Stevens Point Urban Area has a population of 41,316 or roughly 59% of the overall Portage County population base. Portage County has been a steadily urbanizing county with the growth of the urban area. Historically, the growth of the Stevens Point Urban Area has been a major portion of the overall growth of the County.

The City of Stevens Point has grown slowly with ups and downs since 1970, increasing by 9% from 23,479 to 25,666 in 2020 (refer to Table 2). However, the City's population appears to have dropped slightly since 2010. Over this same time period, the Village of Plover incorporated in 1971 and experienced rapid growth of 400% from 2,618 to 13,519. The Village's growth rate has slowed over time but remained a strong 12% from 2010 to 2020.

The Village of Whiting experienced notable growth during the 1970's, but this was followed by steady decrease due in part to being locked on three sides by Stevens Point and Plover with environmental constraints on the other. The Village of Park Ridge, land locked entirely by the City, experienced significant decline between 1970 and 2000, however, it has rebounded slightly during the 2010's.

Adjacent to the urban core, the Towns of Hull and Plover have been the main recipients of the urban area development pressures over time. The City of Stevens Point was incorporated in 1858 and has been growing primarily into the Town of Hull ever since. However, even with annexation, the Town of Hull has recorded considerable population growth of its own. Hull's population increased by 70% between 1970 and 2020, from 3,124 to 5,287 residents. The Town's land use is primarily single family residential, in

larger lot, suburban-style subdivisions located to the east-northeast of Stevens Point, concentrated along State Highway 66, north and south of the U.S. Highway 10 corridor, and along the Old Highway 18 corridor.

The Town of Plover stabilized for a while following the incorporation of the Village of Plover. However, they have taken additional losses in the 2000's and 2010's. Overall, the Town's population has dropped from 3,692 in 1970 just prior to the incorporation to 1,565, a decline of 58%. In 2005 the Town and Village of Plover entered into an intergovernmental agreement that includes a revenue sharing agreement, a cost sharing agreement for the reconstruction of Porter Road, identification of future Village growth areas, identification of future areas that the Village would agree to provide municipal sewer and water without annexation to the Village and joint land use planning recommendations for the Village's Extraterritorial Area.

The Towns of Stockton and Linwood have experienced significant growth between 1970 and 2020 although rates have tapered off in recent years. Stockton has increased by 96% from 1,537 to 3,018 while Linwood has grown by 38% from 773 to 1,070. These towns have not seen a lot of development pressure from the urban area, although their growth can be attributed in-part to bedroom-community status. The urban area is reaching toward Stockton as development spreads east of the Interstate and out along Highway 10. However, environmental restrictions have limited expansion into Linwood.

**TABLE 2: Population Trends 1970-2020 Stevens Point Area**

Yr	Stevens Point		V. Plover		Whiting		Park Ridge		Hull		T. Plover		Stockton		Linwood	
	Pop.	%Δ	Pop.	%Δ	Pop.	%Δ	Pop.	%Δ	Pop.	%Δ	Pop.	%Δ	Pop.	%Δ	Pop.	%Δ
1970	23,479	--	2,618*	--	1,782	--	817	--	3,124	--	3,692	--	1,537	--	773	--
1980	22,970	-2	5,310	103	2,050	15	643	-21	5,122	64	2,330	-37	2,208	44	1,082	40
1990	23,002	0	8,176	54	1,838	-11	546	-15	5,563	9	2,223	-5	2,494	13	1,035	-4
2000	24,551	7	10,520	29	1,760	-4	488	-11	5,493	-1	2,415	9	2,896	16	1,111	7
2010	26,717	9	12,123	15	1,724	-2	491	1	5,346	-3	1,701	-30	2,917	1	1,121	1
2020	25,666	-4	13,519	12	1,601	-7	530	8	5,287	-1	1,565	-8	3,018	3	1,070	-5

Source: US Census and WI DOA, 2022. \*Village of Plover incorporated in 1971.

### **4.3 POPULATION PROJECTIONS**

The Wisconsin Department of Administration is predicting fairly strong growth overall for the Stevens Point urban core with a 14–13.5 percent increase which equates to 5,775,559 additional people in the area by 2040. Table 3 compares the DOA projections with the current population for the city and villages. The bulk of the increase is provided by Stevens Point with 4,5524,484 additional residents by 2040. The Village of Plover adds another 1,4241,251 new residents, while the DOA figures for Whiting and Park Ridge show a slight decrease in population.

**TABLE 3: Wisconsin DOA Projected Population for Stevens Point Urban Core Area**

	2020 Census	2040-DOA Projection	2042 Projection*	# Change 2020-2042	% Change 2020-2042
Stevens Point	25,666	30,150	30,218	4,552	17.7
Village of Plover	13,519	14,770	14,943	1,424	10.5
Whiting	1,601	1,460	1,437	-164	-10.2
Park Ridge	530	495	493	-37	-7.0
Totals	41,316	46,875	47,091	5,775	14.0

Source: US Census, WI DOA 2013 & NCWRPC 2022. \*Based on DOA projected rate of change 2019-2040.

**TABLE 3: Wisconsin DOA Projected Population for Stevens Point Urban Core Area**

	2020 (Census)	2025	2030	2035	2040	# Change 2020-2040	% Change 2020-2040
Stevens Point	25,666	29,110	29,640	29,980	30,150	4,484	17.5
Village of Plover	13,519	13,770	14,200	14,530	14,770	1,251	9.3
Whiting	1,601	1,620	1,575	1,520	1,460	-141	-8.8
Park Ridge	530	505	505	500	495	-35	-6.6
Totals	41,316	45,005	45,920	46,530	46,875	5,559	13.5

Source: US Census, WI DOA 2013 & NCWRPC 2022.

Adjacent to the urban core, the DOA projections anticipate a strong rebound for Town of Plover with an increase of 425-415 new residents by 2040. Hull, Stockton and Linwood populations are expected to remain stable with slight increases over the time period. Table 4 compares the DOA projections with the current population for the adjacent towns.

**TABLE 4: Wisconsin DOA Projected Population for Adjacent Towns**

	2020 Census	2040-DOA Projection	2042 Projection*	# Change 2020-2042	% Change 2020-2042
Hull	5,287	5,325	5,293	6	0.1
Town of Plover	1,565	1,980	1,990	425	27.2
Stockton	3,018	3,210	3,212	194	6.4
Linwood	1,070	1,135	1,131	61	5.7

Source: US Census, WI DOA 2013 & NCWRPC 2022. \*Based on DOA projection rate of change 2019-2040.

**TABLE 4: Wisconsin DOA Projected Population for Adjacent Towns**

	2020 (Census)	2025	2030	2035	2040	# Change 2020-2040	% Change 2020-2040
Hull	5,287	5,465	5,450	5,405	5,325	38	0.7
Town of Plover	1,565	1,880	1,920	1,955	1,980	415	26.5
Stockton	3,018	3,135	3,180	3,205	3,210	192	6.4
Linwood	1,070	1,150	1,150	1,145	1,135	65	6.1
Totals	10,940	11,630	11,700	11,710	11,650	710	6.5

Source: US Census, WI DOA 2013 & NCWRPC 2022.

## **4.4 URBAN AREA LAND USE PROJECTIONS**

### **4.4.1 INTRODUCTION**

Precise projections of the future land use requirements of an urban area are often difficult to determine because of continually changing conditions, and the fact that land area needs of an urban area are satisfied in large part by lands throughout the County. The Sewer Service Area Plan recognizes that the primary determinants of land needs on a long-range basis are subject to significant change that will certainly happen over time, and that such change cannot be accurately accounted for.

Such determinants include private sector decisions that determine the market for doing business in the urban area, technological and economic factors which may increase or decrease land needs for certain uses, governmental policy and regulation, energy factors and continually changing cultural preferences for styles of working and living.

This Plan contains projections of the additional acreage of lands within the urban area judged necessary for and having "potential" for commercial, industrial and residential uses, and which have a reasonable likelihood of development according to current trends and economic outlooks. While these projections are not based exclusively upon future population, they nevertheless were developed with future population needs in mind.

In doing this, the projected additional quantities of land required to meet the needs of the urban area include excess lands beyond actual need. The excess lands are provided to account for the reality that in a free market economy there is expected to be flexibility of choice of building sites when purchasing land for development. This is necessary to avoid excessively high prices which would be caused by unreasonable limitations on land availability. This "market factor" is further discussed later in this section.

### **4.4.2 RESIDENTIAL LAND REQUIREMENTS**

#### **4.4.2A AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE**

Projections of the average number of persons per household are an important variable in estimating the amount of additional land that will be needed for residential purposes.

On the national level, the population per household has steadily declined since the 1960's, while the nation's total population has increased. The decline in household size is reflected in the large increase in the nation's housing stock.

On a community level, changes in average number of persons per household are influenced by national trends, but even more so by the mix of housing types and the age and cost of the community's housing stock. The factors that influence household size on a community basis make these projections difficult; however, such projections remain necessary to determine the amount of residential land consumption during the planning period.

The persons per household projections shown in Table 5 were developed by the Department of Administration as part of their population projection program. The decline in average household size for each community in the urban area is shown from 2020 to 2040.

<b>TABLE 5: Projected Change in Average Persons Per Household for Stevens Point Area</b>					
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2040</b>
Stevens Point	2.17	2.16	2.15	2.13	2.13
V. Plover	2.40	2.39	2.37	2.36	2.35
Whiting	2.10	2.08	2.07	2.06	2.05
Park Ridge	2.22	2.21	2.20	2.18	2.18
Hull	2.54	2.52	2.51	2.49	2.49
T. Plover	2.62	2.60	2.59	2.57	2.56
Stockton	2.64	2.63	2.61	2.59	2.59
Linwood	2.57	2.55	2.53	2.52	2.51
<i>Source: DOA 2013.</i>					

#### 4.4.2B AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL DENSITY

Projecting future development density is another important variable in determining residential land needs. Table 6 shows the densities at which the level current development has occurred through 2020 for each community in the planning area. These densities were determined using land areas calculated through the project geographic information system (GIS) database, the 2020 Census population, and the above persons per household data.

The overall population density of the Stevens Point area ranges from 0.05 ~~per~~ persons per acre in the Town of Linwood to 3.68 in the Village of Park Ridge. The average density within residential sections of the area range from 0.73 persons per residential acre (Linwood) to 8.42 (Stevens Point). This population density converts to residential development densities ranging from about 0.28 (Linwood) to 3.88 (Stevens Point) housing units per residential acre.

The densities are significantly higher in the sewered parts of the planning area. These higher density levels are needed for cost-effective sewer service.

<b>TABLE 6: Average Residential Development Density in Stevens Point Area</b>			
	Overall Average Population Density (persons per acre)	Average Residential Population Density (persons/residential acre)	Average Residential Development Density (housing units per res. acre)
Stevens Point	2.31	8.42	3.88
V. Plover	1.98	5.52	2.30
Whiting	1.34	4.02	1.91
Park Ridge	3.68	5.89	2.65
Hull	0.30	1.40	0.55

T. Plover	0.06	1.27	0.48
Stockton	0.08	0.91	0.34
Linwood	0.05	0.73	0.28

Source: NCWRPC, 2022.

#### 4.4.2C RESIDENTIAL LAND REQUIREMENTS

An estimated additional 814,774 net acres will be required to meet the needs of the urban area population by the year 20402. This is determined by dividing the projected population growth from 2020 to 20402 by the projected persons per household in each community to arrive at the estimated number of new housing units required to meet the additional need. The number of additional housing units is then divided by the estimated development density of units per acre to determine the additional acreage of residential land that will require sewer service. Table 7 displays the estimated net acres for incorporated area.

TABLE 7: Residential Land Requirements for Urban Core Area - 204 <u>02</u>							
	2020 Pop	204 <u>02</u> Pop	Pop Change	Projected PPH	New Housing Units	Units per Acre	204 <u>02</u> New Acres Needed
Stevens Point	25,666	<u>30,150</u> <del>30,218</del>	<u>4,484</u> <del>4,552</del>	2.13	<u>2,137</u> <del>2,105</del>	3.88	<u>550.80</u> <del>542.53</del>
V. Plover	13,519	<u>14,770</u> <del>14,947</del>	<u>1,251</u> <del>1,424</del>	2.35	<u>606</u> <del>532</del>	2.30	<u>263.48</u> <del>231.30</del>
Whiting	1,601	<u>1,460</u> <del>1,437</del>	<u>-141</u> <del>-164</del>	2.05	0	1.91	0
Park Ridge	530	<u>495</u> <del>493</del>	<u>-35</u> <del>-37</del>	2.18	0	2.65	0
Totals	41,316	<u>46,875</u> <del>47,095</del>	<u>5,559</u> <del>5,775</del>		<u>2,743</u> <del>2,637</del>		<u>814.28</u> <del>773.83</del>

Source: US Census, WIDOA 2013 & NCWRPC 2022.

#### 4.4.4 COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL LAND REQUIREMENTS

Commercial and industrial growth are important determinants of land requirements in the urban area. Base labor force figures were obtained from the U.S. Census Longitudinal Employer-Household Data. This data shows an average annual growth in employment of 2.47% for Stevens Point and 1.15% for Village of Plover. Whiting and Park Ridge have been losing employment in recent years. By 20402, this rate of growth projects an increase of 15,47513,638 jobs over the 2019 base year employment.

The employment projections are used to calculate the acres required to meet the needs of the urban area for economic development through the growth and expansion of its commercial and industrial areas. An estimated additional 1,6431,437 net acres will be required by the year 20402. Tables 8 and 9 displays the estimated net acres broken down by commercial and industrial for each core community. Employment percentages by sector are derived from the Census employment data, and employees per acre is generated through GIS analysis.



**TABLE 8: Commercial Land Requirements for Urban Core Area – 20402**

	20402 Total New Jobs	Percentage Commercial	New Jobs - Commercial	Commercial Employees Per Acre	20402 Acres Needed Commercial
Stevens Point	43,734,12,077	88.0	42,086,10,628	22.49	537.39472.57
V. Plover	1,741,1,561	61.9	1,078,966	4.02	286.16240.30
Whiting	0	64.7	0	12.17	0
Park Ridge	0	91.2	0	14.00	0
Totals	45,475,13,638		43,164,11,594		823.55712.87

Source: Longitudinal Employer-Household Data 2019 & NCWRPC 2022.

**TABLE 9: Industrial Land Requirements for Urban Core Area – 20402**

	20402 Total New Jobs	Percentage Industrial	New Jobs - Industrial	Industrial Employees Per Acre	20402 Acres Needed Industrial
Stevens Point	43,734,12,077	12.0	1,648,1,449	2.51	656.57577.29
V. Plover	1,741,1,561	38.1	663,595	4.06	163.30146.55
Whiting	0	35.3	0	2.12	0
Park Ridge	0	8.8	0	--	0
Totals	45,475,13,683		2,311,2,044		819.87723.84

Source: Longitudinal Employer-Household Data 2019 & NCWRPC 2022.

#### 4.4.5 PUBLIC AND INSTITUTIONAL LAND REQUIREMENTS

Public and institutional use of land is typically a smaller but important element of an urban area. In some cases public land consumption may be more significant such as the location of the county seat (as with Stevens Point) or a heavy state government presence. Typically, this category of land use includes things like: government services, schools, utilities, churches and hospitals among others. An estimated additional **586,568** net acres will be required to meet the needs of the urban area population by the year 20402. This projection is based on the existing level of service in terms of the land area devoted to public and institutional uses per person in each community, see Table 10

**TABLE 10: Public & Institutional Land Requirements for Urban Core Area – 20402.**

	Acres per Person	Population. Change 2040 <del>2</del>	2040 <del>2</del> Acres Needed Public & Institutional
Stevens Point	0.11	4,5524,484	500.72493.24
V. Plover	0.06	1,4241,251	85.4475.06
Whiting	0.15	-164-141	0
Park Ridge	0.00	-3735	0
Totals		5,7755,559	586.16568.30

Source: NCWRPC 2022.

#### 4.4.6 PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION LAND REQUIREMENTS

Park and outdoor recreation needs can constitute a significant portion of land within the future urban area. The recommended standard used by the NCWRPC in figuring park needs is 10.5 acres per 1,000 persons. This standard is not intended to include specialized outdoor recreational facilities such as nature reserves, hunting grounds, public utility lands, golf courses, athletic fields, private facilities or school lands. The above standard may be conservative in meeting current and future needs. An estimated additional 60~~2~~ net acres will be required to meet the needs of the urban area population by the year 2040~~2~~.

**TABLE 11: Park & Outdoor Recreation Land Requirements for Urban Core Area – 2040~~2~~.**

	Acres per 1,000 Pop.*	Population. Change 2040	2040 Acres Needed Parks & Recreational
Stevens Point	10.5	4,5524,484	47.8047.08
V. Plover	10.5	1,4241,251	14.9513.14
Whiting	10.5	-164-141	0
Park Ridge	10.5	-37-35	0
Totals		5,7755,559	62.7560.22

Source: NCWRPC, 2022. \*NCWRPC Rec. Planning Standard.

#### 4.4.7 RIGHT-OF-WAY LAND REQUIREMENTS

The space consumed for the transportation facilities which the population uses to access all the land types discussed above is often overlooked when doing acreage allocation for land use needs. Although modern planning practice is often recommending that communities shift to “neo-traditional” standards including narrower streets, right-of-way can still consume significant amounts of land which must be accounted for because other “hard” development cannot locate within these reserved areas.

Right-of-way often consumes a significant percentage of the developed area of communities in Wisconsin. For purposes of determining the portion of development being devoted to right-of-way in the Steven Point urban area, the project GIS database was used to calculate right-of-way within each community, see Table 12. An estimated

additional 435-397 net acres will be required to meet the needs of the urban area population by the year 20402.

TABLE 12: Right-of-Way Land Requirements for Urban Core Area – 204 <u>02</u>		
	% Local R-O-W	New R-O-W in Acres
Stevens Point	13.8	<u>316.47294.31</u>
V. Plover	14.6	<u>118.75103.13</u>
Whiting	14.5	0
Park Ridge	26.4	0
Totals		<u>435.22397.44</u>
<i>Source: NCWRPC 2022.</i>		

#### 4.4.8 ALLOWANCE FOR MARKET FACTORS

To accommodate flexibility and choice in development sites a market factor of 2 has been incorporated. This factor was based on the projected future land area needs and a cursory review of undeveloped lands in and around the urban area, as well as the likelihood that a given piece of property will be available for development at any given time.

The market factor makes available an additional 7,0836,473 acres over the actual net need within the year 20402 sewer service area to accommodate market decisions. While not all of this additional acreage would be expected to be developed during the planning period, it is anticipated that this acreage will provide additional opportunities for development in the event of other lands being kept off the real estate market.

#### 4.4.9 TOTAL URBAN AREA LAND REQUIREMENTS

The estimated additional net acreage sewered area needs in the year 20402 for the Stevens Point urban area are projected to be 3,541.833,236.50 acres plus the market factor of 7,083.666,743 acres for a total additional land need of 10,625.499,709.50 acres. This acreage will consist of the following land use needs shown in Table 13.

TABLE 13: Total Additional Land Area Requirements for Steven Point Urban Core Area to Year 204 <u>02</u>			
Land Use	Net Acreage Demand	Market Factor	Total Acreage Demand
Residential	<u>814.28773.83</u>	<u>1,628.561,547.66</u>	<u>2,442.842,321.49</u>
Commercial	<u>823.55712.87</u>	<u>1,647.101,425.74</u>	<u>2,470.652,138.61</u>
Industrial	<u>819.87723.84</u>	<u>1,639.741,447.68</u>	<u>2,459.642,171.52</u>
Public/Institutional	<u>586.16568.30</u>	<u>1,172.321,136.60</u>	<u>1,758.481,704.90</u>
Recreation	<u>62.7560.22</u>	<u>125.50120.44</u>	<u>188.25180.66</u>
ROW	<u>435.22397.44</u>	<u>870.44794.88</u>	<u>1,305.661,192.32</u>
Totals	<u>3,541.833,236.50</u>	<u>7,083.666,473.00</u>	<u>10,625.499,709.50</u>
<i>Source: NCWRPC 2022. Some totals may not add due to rounding.</i>			

#### 4.4.10 INFILL AND REDEVELOPMENT OF VACANT LANDS

A certain amount of undeveloped land exists within the current incorporated limits of the communities of the urban area. A basic analysis of land use inventory data was done to identify undeveloped areas with infill potential within the existing sewer service area. Within the City of Stevens Point approximately 1,383 acres of unused/vacant properties were identified, and 1,630 acres were identified with the Village of Plover.

A detailed inventory of sites available for possible redevelopment was beyond The scope of this Plan. However, local officials are promoting and actively working toward infill and redevelopment. Based on these considerations, significant infill and redevelopment is expected to take place moving forward.

This Sewer Service Area Plan recognizes that infill development and redevelopment are good public policy and establishes goals and objectives to achieve infill and redevelopment. There is a clear cost effectiveness advantage to infill development that has infrastructure like sewer and water lines already installed nearby.

#### 4.4.11 SSA ADDITIONAL ACREAGE ALLOCATION BY COMMUNITY 2040<sup>2</sup>

The total additional urban area land area requirements for 2040<sup>2</sup> are allocated to each community based on their portion of the projected growth as shown in Table 14.

**TABLE-14: Additional Land Area Needs by Community for Stevens Point Urban Core Area—2042**

	2042 Acres Needed Residential	2042 Acres Needed Commercial	2042 Acres Needed Industrial	2042 Acres Needed Public Institutional	2042 Acres Needed Outdoor Recreation	2042 Acres Needed ROW	2042 Market Factor Acres	Infill Factor Acres	2042 Acres Needed Total
Stevens Point	550.80	537.39	656.57	500.72	47.80	316.47	5,219.50	-1,383	6,446.25
V. Plover	263.48	286.16	163.30	85.44	14.95	118.75	1,846.16	-1,630	1,166.24
Whiting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	0
Park Ridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	0
Totals	814.28	823.55	819.87	586.16	62.75	435.22	7,083.66	-3,013	7,612.49

Source: NCWRFG 2022. Some totals may not add due to rounding.

**TABLE 14: Additional Land Area Needs by Community for Stevens Point Urban Core Area - 2040**

	2040 Acres Needed Residential	2040 Acres Needed Commercial	2040 Acres Needed Industrial	2040 Acres Needed Public Institutional	2040 Acres Needed Outdoor Recreation	2040 Acres Needed ROW	2040 Market Factor Acres	Infill Factor Acres	2040 Acres Needed Total
Stevens Point	550.80	537.39	656.57	500.72	47.80	316.47	5,219.50	-1,383	6,446.25
V. Plover	263.48	286.16	163.30	85.44	14.95	118.75	1,846.16	-1,630	1,166.24
Whiting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	0
Park Ridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	0
Totals	814.28	823.55	819.87	586.16	62.75	435.22	7,083.66	-3,013	7,612.49

Stevens Point	<u>542.53</u>	<u>472.57</u>	<u>577.29</u>	<u>493.24</u>	<u>47.08</u>	<u>294.31</u>	<u>4,854.04</u>	<u>-1,383</u>	<u>5,898.06</u>
V. Plover	<u>231.30</u>	<u>240.30</u>	<u>146.55</u>	<u>75.06</u>	<u>13.14</u>	<u>103.13</u>	<u>1,618.96</u>	<u>-1,630</u>	<u>798.44</u>
Whiting	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>n/a</u>	<u>0</u>
Park Ridge	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>n/a</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	<u>773.83</u>	<u>712.87</u>	<u>723.84</u>	<u>568.30</u>	<u>60.22</u>	<u>397.44</u>	<u>6,473.00</u>	<u>-3,013</u>	<u>6,696.50</u>

Source: NCWRFC 2022. Some totals may not add due to rounding.

## **SECTION 5.0 ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS**

### **5.1 DELINEATION OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS**

Delineating environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) is one of the most important components of a sewer service area plan. These areas need to be protected in order to protect water quality.

According to Administrative Code NR 121 provisions, "Major areas unsuitable for the installation of waste treatment systems because of physical or environmental constraints are to be excluded from the service area. Areas to be considered for exclusion from the sewer service area because of the potential for adverse impacts on the quality of the waters of the state from both point and nonpoint sources of pollution include but are not limited to wetlands, shorelands, floodways and floodplains, steep slopes/highly erodible soils and other limiting soil types, groundwater protection areas, and other such physical constraints."

The Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee determined that the designated environmentally sensitive areas for the Sewer Service Area Plan update would remain the same as the previous, 2007, plan. Therefore, floodways, wetlands and areas of steep slopes 12% or greater will be the elements that comprise the ESA for this Sewer Service Area Plan.

Environmentally sensitive areas are defined, generally, as those areas that are unsuitable for sewered development because of the potential significant adverse impact upon water quality (see NR 121.05(1)(g)2.c.). The sewer service area is that area presently served or anticipated to be served by a sewage treatment system within a sewer service area plan's planning period. Technically, the sewer service area does not include environmentally sensitive areas, which are delineated separately and do not count in acreage allocations for sewered development.

The Plan uses the term "environmentally sensitive areas" rather than "environmental corridors" primarily due to the inconsistent use of the term "environmental corridors" across the state. Additionally, "environmental corridors" implies the need for the subject resource to be linear or contiguous within the sewer service area, however, such contiguity is not required for an area to be sensitive and in need of protection under NR121 for maintenance of water quality.

A sewer service plan regulates only sewered development. Its authority does not prohibit unsewered development from occurring in environmentally sensitive areas (although these areas may be regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or other agencies). A proposal that would encroach on land under the environmentally sensitive area designation to allow sewered development may require a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit or a Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 30 permit and water quality certification for compliance with NR103, or other permits in order to protect water quality.

To install new sewer lines, a community needs a sewer extension "conformance letter" from the water quality planning agency, sometimes referred to as the water quality management (WQM) letter. The agency needs to determine that the proposed development lies within the sewer service area, but not within a designated environmentally sensitive area.

The environmentally sensitive areas shown on the sewer service area maps are a representation of the conditions at the time of map preparation, using the best available data. The maps do not reflect field survey work that specific development proposals require. The presence and location of navigable waters, floodways, wetlands and similar site features must be verified by field survey, and applicable permits must be obtained prior to any land disturbing activity. Verification may be required by the WDNR for water quality certification purposes before approving any sewer extension or SSA amendment. Site inspection takes precedence over the sewer service area map.

It is not the intent of designated environmentally sensitive areas to prevent or obstruct necessary maintenance, expansion or construction of transportation or utility facilities intended to serve areas outside of the sensitive area, needed to maintain or improve continuity of those systems, or designed to serve compatible uses in the designated areas such as park shelters or facilities. Environmentally sensitive area delineations sometimes include features that are not water quality related, so not every sensitive area development proposal will require a permit.

The remaining entries of this section discuss in detail the elements that comprise the environmentally sensitive area for purposes of this sewer service area plan. Table 15, below, provides a "quick reference" summary of the guidelines for environmentally sensitive area designation.

<b>TABLE 15: ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA (ESA) GUIDELINES</b>		
<b>Element</b>	<b>Applicable Features</b>	<b>Delineation Guide</b>
FLOODWAY	Waterways delineated in WDNR Surface Water Data Viewer / <a href="#">FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps</a>	✓ Channel of stream and the adjoining area required to carry flood flows associated with the regional flood (NR116.03, Wis. Adm. Code)
WETLANDS	Wetlands delineated on WI Wetland Inventory Maps	✓ Mapped Area
STEEP SLOPES	Areas of Slope 12% or Greater	✓ General Area of Slope

Source: NCWRPC, 2022.



## **5.2 FLOODWAYS**

The floodplain is the land calculated to be covered by floodwater during the 100-year flood. The floodplain includes the *floodway* and the flood fringe. The *floodway* is the channel of the river or stream and those portions of the floodplain adjoining the channel required to carry and discharge the flood waters or flood flows associated with the 100-year flood (see NR 116.03 Wis. Adm. Code).

Local, state and federal regulations control development in floodplain areas. These regulations primarily include federal floodplain management standards established by the National Flood Insurance Program or NFIP (44 CFR 50-72), Wisconsin's floodplain management standards which parallel the NFIP (NR 116 Wis. Adm. Code), and local level floodplain zoning including chapters 7.6 Portage County Code, 23 City of Stevens Point Code, 530 Village of Plover Code, and 20 Village of Whiting Code. Most development is not allowed within the floodway. Development can occur within the flood fringe with appropriate flood proofing measures. The added expense of developing in the flood fringe versus other upland areas will control the rate and extent of floodplain development.

To prevent development in a high hazard area, floodways ~~should beare~~ excluded from sewer service areas. The Department of Natural Resources will not approve any sewer service area plan or amendment that is not consistent with an approved floodplain zoning ordinance or which allows new service to new development in the floodway.

Plans or amendments which would result in a reduction of storm or flood water conveyance or storage capacity ~~should-must~~ be denied unless remedial actions which conform to NR 116 are identified and approved prior. When there is an existing, lawful development within the floodway, a plan or amendment may include the development within the boundaries of the proposed service area.

Lands officially determined to be out of the mapped floodway ~~should beare~~ considered removed from the ESA unless other factors dictate. These areas are typically documented with a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) or Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) issued by FEMA.

The FEMA DFIRM, or Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map, data was used to map the floodway as part of the environmentally sensitive area for this Plan. FEMA completed an update of the flood mapping for Portage County in 2009.

~~Floodplains-Floodways~~ in the Stevens Point area are primarily associated with the Wisconsin and Plover Rivers, see Map 3.

## **5.3 WETLANDS**

Wetlands are areas where water is at, near or above the land surface long enough to be capable of supporting aquatic or hydrophytic vegetation and having soils indicative of wet

conditions (see NR 103 Wis. Adm. Code). Although wetlands are often associated with waterbodies, especially shoreland wetlands which are very ecologically important, many wetland areas may not be directly related to a lake or stream. Local, state and federal regulations control development activities in wetland areas. Permits are required for activities that impact wetlands. In some cases, wetland mitigation or replacement is required.

Wetlands perform many indispensable roles in the proper function of the hydrologic cycle and local ecological systems. In terms of hazard mitigation, they act as water storage devices in times of high water. Like sponges, wetlands are able to absorb excess water and release it back into the watershed slowly, preventing flooding and minimizing flood damage. As more impermeable surfaces are developed, this excess capacity for water runoff storage becomes increasingly important.

Wetland plants and soils have the capacity to store and filter pollutants ranging from pesticides to animal wastes. Calm wetland waters, with their flat surface and flow characteristics, allow particles of toxins and nutrients to settle out of the water column. Plants take up certain nutrients from the water. Other substances can be stored or transformed to a less toxic state within wetlands. As a result, wetlands play an important role in water quality.

To protect water quality wetlands ~~should be~~are excluded from sewer service areas. The Department of Natural Resources will not approve any sewer service area plan or amendment that allows new service to new development in wetlands.

The Department of Natural Resources' Wisconsin Wetland Inventory data was used to map the wetlands as part of the environmentally sensitive area for this Plan, see Map 3. However, field survey may be required to verify boundaries.

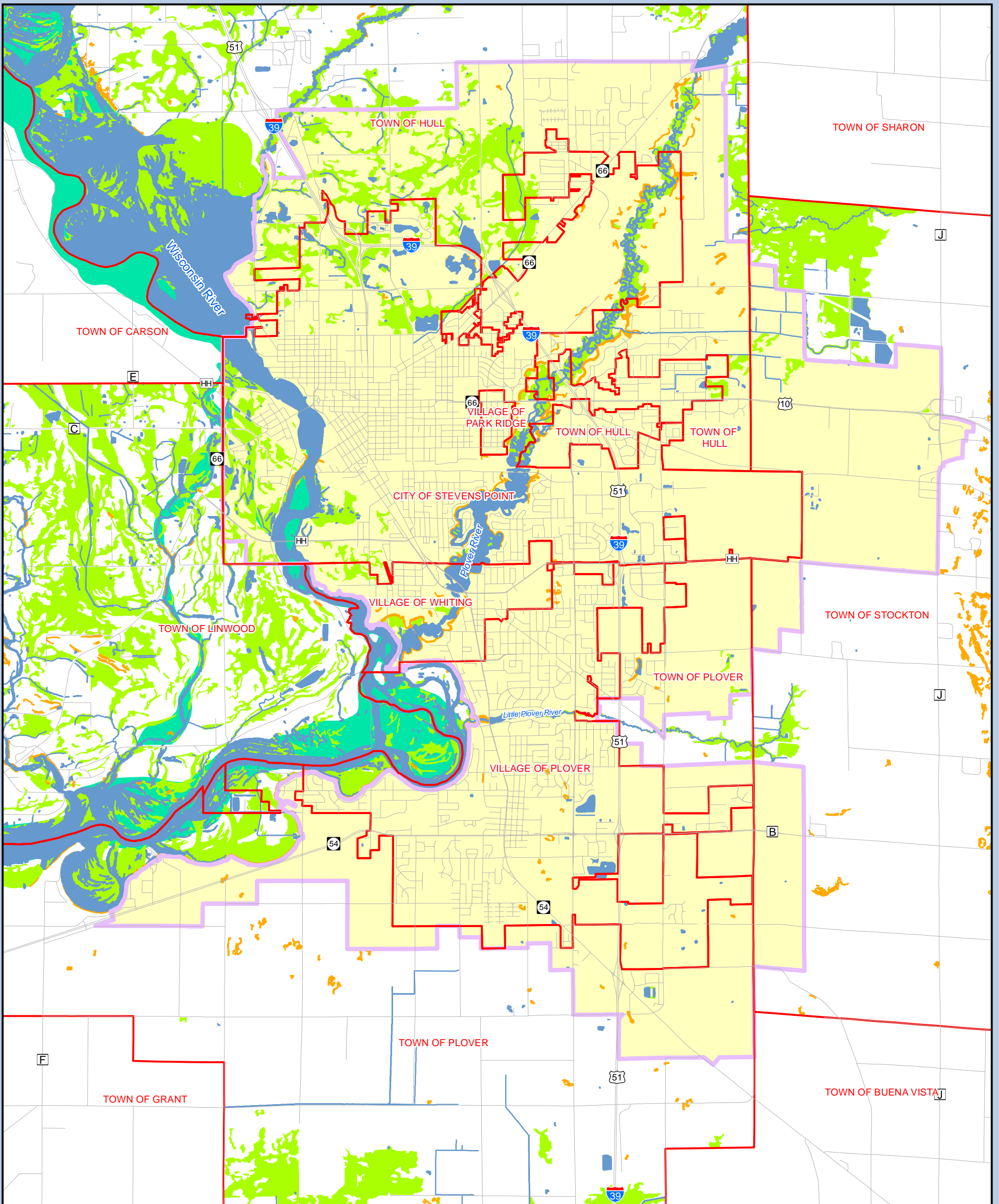
Pockets of wetland are scattered across the urban area, although more concentrated along the various streams and rivers in the area. Extensive areas of wetlands lie to the north and west of the urban area in the Towns of Hull and Linwood.





#### **5.4 STEEP SLOPES**

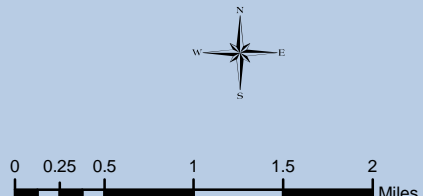
Areas with slopes 12% and over were identified using digital elevation and contour data from the County's Geographic Information System and mapped as part of the environmentally sensitive area for this Plan, see Map 3. These areas are generally found along the Plover River throughout the planning area, and along the east and southeast banks of the Wisconsin River in the Village of Plover.

Slopes over 12% are environmentally sensitive because construction on steep slopes can result in severe bank erosion and damaging siltation of a water body. Evidence of sedimentation problems ~~is~~are already apparent in the Plover River and its impoundment known as McDill Pond. The steep slope areas along the Wisconsin and Plover Rivers do not have enough lateral dimension away from the banks to allow development on or over these slope areas.






-  Roads
-  Water
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Proposed Sewer Service Boundary
-  Steep Slopes
-  Wetlands
-  Floodway



This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only. NCRWPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.

Prepared by:  

**North Central  
 Wisconsin Regional  
 Planning Commission**  
 210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403  
 (715) 849-5510 www.ncwrpc.org

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## **5.5 PROTECTION OF ESAs AND RELATED AREAS**

The environmentally sensitive areas delineated in this Plan, floodways, wetlands and steep slopes, are excluded from the sewer service area, and new sewered development is generally not permitted in these delineated areas. Floodways and wetlands are integral parts of the overall systems of water resources within the Stevens Point area and Portage County. Protecting water quality is one of the primary functions of a sewer service area plan.

Sewer extensions will not be approved for development of environmentally sensitive areas identified within this Plan, however, they may be allowed to cross certain sensitive areas with the appropriate permits if necessary to facilitate development adjacent to these areas. The sewer service area plan does not supersede any existing or future regulations or requirements that are applicable to any environmentally sensitive area. A proposed sewered development is still responsible for meeting all legal requirements and obtaining all necessary permits, as well as, compliance with the sewer service area plan.

Surface water, including lakes, rivers, streams and their associated shorelands and floodplains, wetlands, and groundwater are protected by a layered system of regulations and programs. ~~at all three levels of government: local, state and federal. The remainder of this subsection references these regulations and programs. The sewer service area plan does not supersede any existing or future regulations or requirements that are applicable to any environmentally sensitive area. A proposed sewered development is still responsible for meeting all legal requirements and obtaining all necessary permits, as well as, compliance with the sewer service area plan.~~

Development along the shoreline of lakes and streams is controlled through state standards and programs and through local shoreland zoning regulations. The shoreland area is within 1,000 feet of the ordinary high water mark of navigable lakes, ponds and flowages and within 300 feet of navigable rivers and streams. State Administrative Code NR 115 establishes the Wisconsin Shoreland Protection Program which mandates Portage County establishes and enforces shoreland zoning (Chapter 7.7 Portage County Code of Ordinances) in unincorporated areas and with the DNR maintains maintaining oversight responsibilities, see NR 115 Wis. Adm. Code. State Administrative Code NR 116 establishes the Wisconsin Floodplain Management Program in conformance with the National Flood Insurance Program (44 CFR 59-72) which requires County Floodplain Zoning (Chapter 7.6 Portage County Code of Ordinances). Incorporated villages and cities are required to adopt and enforce their own floodplain zoning under NR 116 as well as shoreland zoning, see under NR 117 which establishes the Wisconsin City & Village Shoreland-Wetland Protection Program Wis. Adm. Code. (see Chapter 23 of the City of Stevens Point Code of Ordinances, Chapter 530 Village of Plover Code of Ordinances, and Chapter 20 Village of Whiting Code of Ordinances). These local zoning regulations include standards for minimum lot sizes, building setbacks, vegetative buffers, filling, grading, lagooning, dredging, ditching and excavating, impervious surfaces, height of structures, and regulations controlling nonconforming structures and uses.



Activities in wetlands are regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and by local counties, cities and villages. Excavating or placement of any material in a wetland requires a DNR permit. Permit reviews include compliance with the requirements of section 281.36, Wis. Statutes, and NR 103 and NR 299 Wis. Adm. Code.

To prevent runoff and erosion from polluting waters, particularly in highly erodible areas of steep slope, construction projects that disturb one acre or more of land must comply with state regulations for construction site erosion control and stormwater management under NR 216 Wis. Adm. Code. In addition, municipalities designated as an MS4 are required to adopt construction site erosion control and post-construction stormwater management ordinances under NR 216. An MS4 is a municipal separate stormwater system designated by the US EPA as part of its national pollution discharge elimination system. The list of communities designated is expanding in phases under the rule. The City of Stevens Point has been an MS4 for some time and has a construction site erosion control and stormwater management ordinance (Chapter 31 Stevens Point Code of Ordinances) that conforms to state standards. The Village of Plover recently came under MS4 designation and will have to develop an ordinance.

Wellhead protection programs typically include some kind of zoning controls and implement groundwater pollution prevention measures within the recharge areas of public water supply wells, see NR 811.12(6) Wis. Adm. Code. All of the communities within the urban area have wellhead protection programs in place for their public water supply wells. Portage County has a groundwater management plan designed to help local officials in setting groundwater policy and serves as a resource on strategies to address groundwater issues.

~~In addition to this basic framework, the primary protection efforts for the ESAs are identified below by ESA element:~~

- ~~• Floodways – Development within the floodplain is regulated through floodplain zoning under NR 116 Wis. Adm. Code. Portage County and each city and village all have floodplain zoning codes in effect.~~
- ~~• Wetlands – Activities in wetlands are regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and by local counties, cities and villages. Excavating or placement of any material in a wetland requires a DNR permit. Permit reviews include compliance with the requirements of section 281.36, Wis. Statutes, and NR 103 and NR 299 Wis. Adm. Code. Special provisions for shoreland wetland zoning are established in NR 115 and NR 117 Wis. Adm. Code.~~
- ~~• Steep Slopes – Counties, cities and villages must adopt construction site erosion control and storm water management ordinances that conform to statewide standards under NR 151 Wis. Adm. Code. These ordinances are expected to accommodate development in areas of steep slope and highly erodible soils. NR 216 Wis. Adm. Code requires communities in the urban~~



~~area to maintain a storm water permit and implement performance standards to minimize the discharge of pollutants carried by storm water runoff. The Northcentral Wisconsin Stormwater Coalition coordinates the public education and outreach requirements of the permit on behalf of the communities in the urban area. -~~

Best management practices, or BMPs, are encouraged and sometimes mandated to minimize loss of a resource through a variety of techniques to reduce the impact of construction and development on the natural environment.

In general, local planning and zoning ~~should~~ dictate appropriate development conditions in all of the instances noted above. In some cases, sewer service may be a necessary solution to address problems of an existing development with failing on-site systems resulting in health concerns.

## **SECTION 6.0      URBAN AREA COMPREHENSIVE PLANS**

### **6.1      INTRODUCTION**

Under current state law, for a community's plan to carry any legal weight it must be a comprehensive plan as defined in the statute. As a result, most communities have done or are in the process of comprehensive planning. Such is the case in the Stevens Point area. A review and analysis of the completed plans and planning efforts in progress for the participating municipalities within the study area is an essential element in the development of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Area Plan. Consideration of the individual community's comprehensive plans assisted in the development of a Sewer Service Area Plan that safeguards area water quality while being compatible with the community's view of future development. Likewise, study area communities develop future plans or updates that are consistent with the goals and objectives of this Sewer Service Area Plan.

Sewerage facilities are an important part of an interactive system of land use and development. These facilities are influenced by the pattern of development and exert a strong force in determining that pattern. The following sections discuss the locally adopted plans which represent the desired development patterns of the urban area communities. These plans guide the urban area's future growth and assist local engineers and consultants in designing sewer systems to accommodate expected growth.

### **6.2      URBAN AREA COMPREHENSIVE PLANS**

Currently, the City of Stevens Point, Village of Plover, Village of Whiting, Village of Park Ridge, and the Towns of Hull, Linwood, Plover and Stockton have adopted comprehensive plans. The Village of Plover and Town of Linwood were nearing completion of plan updates at the time of this writing, and the City of Stevens Point and Town of Hull were in the early stages of plan update. These community comprehensive planning efforts were consulted for development of this sewer service area plan, see Appendix for each community Future Land Use Plan map.

The City of Stevens Point adopted its comprehensive plan in 2005, however, the city's community development department is in the beginning stages of updating the plan. The update will be built on a framework of neighborhood plans. The current plan was developed by the city with the assistance of the Portage County Planning & Zoning Department. The city plan is consistent with the purpose of the sewer service area plan as illustrated by stated goals and objectives such as "To provide public utilities and services in a manner that will promote efficient and orderly growth and development." (UCF Goal 1) and "Encourage the provision of public utilities in areas a) that can be

most efficiently and economically served, and b) that are environmentally suitable for urban development.” (UCF Objective c)

In addition, the city’s comprehensive plan also promotes infill and redevelopment, a key element of sewer service area planning. The sewer service area boundary is directly incorporated into the comprehensive plan as an urban growth boundary concept.

Development trends in the City of Stevens Point have shifted to infill and higher density residential development along with a focus on redevelopment of the downtown area. Commercial and industrial growth has outpaced other areas. The city would like to see new subdivision style development in the future.

The Village of Plover adopted its last comprehensive plan in 2006, however an update was in progress simultaneously with the sewer service area plan update. Draft material from the update was reviewed for this SSA plan. The 2006 plan and the update were developed by the village with the assistance of the Portage County Planning & Zoning Department. The village plan is consistent with the purpose of the sewer service area plan as illustrated by stated goals and objectives such as “To provide public utilities and services in a manner that will promote efficient and orderly growth and development” (UCF Goal 1), “Encourage the provision of public utilities in areas that can be most efficiently and economically served” (UCF Objective c), and “Promote the extension of public utilities only in areas environmentally suitable for urban development.” (UCF Objective d)

In addition, the Village’s comprehensive plan extensively integrates the sewer service area plan and acknowledges its role in allocating adequate land area to meet projected future land use needs for the village.

The village has seen a lot of single family development in the southeast corner and some in the southwest with some general commercial here and there. The east side business park has been building up with only a few parcels remaining. Some new commercial development is anticipated in the northeast corner.

The Village of Whiting adopted its comprehensive plan in 2004. The plan was developed with the assistance of the Portage County Planning & Zoning Department. The village plan is consistent with the purpose of the sewer service area plan as illustrated by stated goals and objectives such as “To provide sanitary sewer, water and other necessary public utilities to existing and planned future development in an efficient and cost effective manner” (UCF Goal 1), “Encourage the provision of public utilities in areas that can be most efficiently and economically served” (UCF Objective a), and “Promote the extension of public utilities only in areas environmentally suitable for urban development.” (UCF Objective b) In addition, the village’s comprehensive plan also promotes infill and redevelopment, a key element of sewer service area planning.

The Village of Whiting is essentially land-locked which restricts its ability to expand. Population growth has been somewhat stagnant, and some major industries have been

lost. However, the village continues to see a little residential and some commercial development here and there.

The Village of Park Ridge comprehensive plan was adopted in 2004 and updated in 2022. The Town of Hull plan was adopted in 2006, but an update is also currently underway. The Town of Linwood comprehensive plan was adopted in 2009, but the town is nearing completion of an update. The Town of Plover completed a new comprehensive plan update in 2021. The Town of Stockton has a current comprehensive plan adopted in 2016. All of these plans/planning efforts were assisted by the Portage County Planning & Zoning Department. These plans ~~are~~ all contain goals and objectives similar to those previously discussed, thus also making them consistent with the purpose of the sewer service area plan.

Park Ridge is entirely land-locked, and any new development is essentially limited to infill and redevelopment. The Town of Hull's development has primarily limited to only 10-12 new homes per year, and this is not expected to change. The Towns of Linwood and Stockton are in a similar position, although anticipated growth rates are slightly higher than Hull. The Town of Plover has had very light residential growth except for the extensive solar farm being developed in the southwest portion. The town does have a notable commercial development at the intersection of Business 51 and Interstate 39 which is being limited by lack of sewer service. The Town of Plover plan does promote some high-density development such as this, in coordination with the Village of Plover.

The communities within the Stevens Point Urban Area have a strong history of intergovernmental agreements and cooperation. With regard to boundaries and landuse, the Village of Plover and Town of Plover recently renewed a cooperative boundary agreement which includes areas within the Town in which the Village has agreed to provide municipal sewer and water without annexation. The City of Stevens Point and Town of Hull have also been in discussions regarding a cooperative boundary agreement. A variety of other agreements are in place among the urban area communities, for example: the Village of Park Ridge and City of Stevens Point have intergovernmental agreements relating to sewer, water and fire protection.

## **7.0 SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN GOALS, OBJECTIVES & POLICIES**

### **7.1 INTRODUCTION**

One of the most important steps in drafting an urban area sewer service plan is to establish some overall goals and policies to guide the development and implementation of the Plan. The goals, objectives and policies presented in the previous, 2007, Sewer Service Area Plan were reviewed and updated by the Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee Policy.

The following goals and policies constitute the adopted guidelines by which the Advisory Committee and its administrative staff will:

- 1) Establish the boundaries of the sewer service area,
- 2) Review sewer extension requests,
- 3) Review Sewer Service Plan amendments, and
- 4) Make other reviews related to sewer service as needed.

### **7.2 GOALS OF THE SEWER SERVICE PLAN**

Goal 1. To provide and maintain sanitary sewer service which efficiently meets the needs of all segments of area communities while protecting the quality of water resources and the quality of the environment.

Objective 1. By controlling development of areas where environmental conditions indicate that development should not take place, especially, wetlands, floodways and areas with steep slopes.

Policies: a) Environmentally sensitive areas ~~should~~must be identified and preserved, and not used for urban development.

b) Future development ~~should be~~is directed to locate in areas suitable for development where environmental impacts can be avoided or sufficiently mitigated.

c) Protect natural drainageways from impacts of development.

Objective 2. By eliminating conditions created by inadequate sewage collection and treatment facilities which result in potential threats to the health and welfare of the public.

Policy a) Eliminate inadequate on-site sewage systems within the Sewer Service Area through connection to a municipal sewer system.

Goal 2. To guide the future development in the urban core of Portage County within the defined Sewer Service Area limits in an efficient, orderly, and compatible manner.

Objective 1. By encouraging utilization of vacant land within the Urban Area communities that is already provided with urban services.

Policy a) Direct in-fill development and re-development of areas that do not require upgrading existing public facilities, where appropriate, ~~should be~~ emphasized.

Objective 2. By providing sufficient land area in which the future development of the Urban Area communities can be accommodated.

Policy a) Areas adjacent to the City/Village limits which are contiguous to urban development and are experiencing documented development pressures should be ~~provided included~~ within the sewer service area.

Objective 3. By extending sanitary sewer service to those areas where demand exists within the Sewer Service Area.

Policies: a) Public sanitary sewer service will be extended to development areas on a cost-effective basis.

b) Sewer service extensions will be used as a tool to implement community plans by directing growth into the most desirable areas.

c) Extensions will not be made beyond the Sewer Service Area unless the Sewer Service Area Plan Map is amended. Where compatible with community plans and other community policies, sanitary sewer extensions into areas in proximity to existing development will be given high priority.

d) Sewers may not be extended beyond the Sewer Service Area, however, they ~~should can~~ be sized to accommodate future basin development that may occur outside of the service area in the future.

Goal 3. To encourage future development located outside the Sewer Service Area limits to occur in an efficient, orderly, and compatible manner.

Objective 1. By encouraging development that is consistent with City, Village, Town, and County plans.

Policy a) Coordinate planning efforts of the four incorporated municipalities with the four towns in the Urban Area planning area and Portage County to develop future land uses.

Objective 2. By encouraging the orderly and compatible extension of urban services, with the intent of preventing the premature development of agricultural land.

Policy a) Agricultural areas should not be used for urban development unless identified for such development in the community's Comprehensive Plan.

Objective 3. By minimizing problems associated with large lot rural subdivisions locating in the urban service limits.

Policy a) Surveys and subdivision plats creating new development sites within the Sewer Service Area limits should be discouraged unless arrangements are made to ultimately accommodate urban services including sanitary sewer and water.

### **7.3 ADDITIONAL SEWER SERVICE POLICIES**

These policies are intended to set the direction for the establishment and maintenance of the Sewer Service Area boundary. These policies would also be used by the local Sewer Service Advisory Committee and the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in reviewing and deciding upon proposed sewer extensions, plan amendments or other reviews as required.

#### **7.3.1 SELECTION OF DEVELOPMENT LIMITATIONS CRITERIA WHICH WILL IDENTIFY LANDS NOT CONDUCTIVE TO SEWERED URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 121.05(1)(g)2.c requires that: “Major areas unsuitable for the installation of waste treatment systems because of physical or environmental constraints are to be excluded from the service area. Areas to be considered for exclusion from the sewer service area because of the potential for adverse impacts on the quality of the waters of the state from both point and non-point sources of pollution include but are not limited to wetlands, shorelands, floodways and floodplains, steep slopes, highly erodible soils and other limiting soil types, groundwater recharge areas, and other such physical constraints.”

In accordance with this requirement, those areas have been considered for exclusion from the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Boundary area. It was the conclusion of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee that the following areas are identified as primary environmentally sensitive areas to be excluded from development: wetlands (as identified on the Department of Natural Resources Wetland Inventory Map, or as field verified by a certified professional), flood way (as designated on FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps or field verified by a certified professional), and steep slopes/highly erodible soils (12% and greater).

Sanitary sewers cannot be extended to serve development in primary environmentally sensitive areas designated within this Plan.

#### **7.3.2 SPECIFIC EXCEPTIONS FOR AREAS WITH USE RESTRICTIONS**

Use restricted lands include large parcels of privately owned land (i.e. Izaak Walton League lands, Stevens Point Country Club, or Sentry World golf course) and large publicly owned parcels (municipal well fields and surrounding buffer areas, former “Boy Scout” property, or municipal airport lands outside the central activity area) that have been deemed unlikely to be developed/require sewer during the current planning period. As such, these areas are also excluded from the sewer service area.



### 7.3.3 SPECIFIC EXCEPTIONS FOR AREAS WITH PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT LIMITATIONS

The Sewer Service Plan identifies additional land having some possible degree of limitations for development other than those identified as primary environmentally sensitive areas. These limitations include things like high ground water / bedrock and good agricultural soils. However, these limitations are not deemed significant enough to preclude sewer development. All developments proposed in these areas will, nevertheless, be subject to the necessary development standards to mitigate possible site-specific problems associated with development.

Good agricultural soils include those soils identified in adopted comprehensive plans as “Highly Productive Agriculture Soils”. The productive agricultural lands abutting the City of Stevens Point and Village of Plover have the fewest physical limitations and represent the natural expansion direction of the urban area. Both incorporated communities may experience the need to expand their jurisdictions into some of these productive agricultural lands to accommodate private sector growth needs. This factor is recognized and accommodated in planning for the future sewer service area of these communities. To provide for this possibility, it was determined that the good agricultural lands within the planning area will not be restricted from sewer service.

There are also unique areas or circumstances across the Urban Area where extension of sewer may be supported, even with the existence of physical limitations. The rationale for permitting sewer extensions into these various geographic areas is presented below by area description.

1. Northside of Stevens Point - This area is characterized by high bedrock, high groundwater, and clay soil conditions. A portion of this zone will be restricted from sewer service due to the wetlands found in the area. However, the majority of the north side should not be denied future sewer service. In fact, the City has already incurred significant infrastructure cost throughout the area. Most of these lands are zoned for commercial and residential use. The area currently has scattered development served by sanitary sewer, water, a street system and other urban services. Continuing to allow contiguous urban expansion into such lands will foster cost-effective infill and service to avoid urban sprawl while offering a better level of environmental protection if they are serviced by municipal water and sewer utilities.
2. West of the Wisconsin River - The west side of Stevens Point, including land in the Town of Linwood, is virtually limited to existing sewer service because of the presence of vast areas of floodplain and wetlands west of the Wisconsin River. The high groundwater, high bedrock, and clay soil limitations which are found in this area are basically overlain by the floodplains and wetlands which preclude future sewer development. A very small amount of expansion of the sewer service area west of the river is anticipated. However, for the most part, the lands

mapped as having development limitations in this portion of the urban area will fall outside of the sewer service boundary.

3. High Groundwater Zone Through the Village and Town of Plover - The high groundwater zone in the southern portion of the planning area represents an anomaly not actually present the majority of the time. The historical record indicates that high groundwater is physically present for only a short period of time over a period of several decades. For this reason, ~~it is recommended that~~ the area ~~is~~ not ~~be~~ restricted from sewer service.

#### 7.3.4 INDIVIDUAL JURISDICTION POLICIES

Individual jurisdictions providing sewer service may be more restrictive in deciding which lands should and should not be served by sanitary sewers. The physical development limitations identified within this Plan can be considered to the extent locally judged to be appropriate, especially in the interest of cost-effectiveness of sewer services. Hook-ups to existing sanitary sewers in these areas are considered consistent with this Plan. Decisions on what, if any, development restrictions including denial of sewer service, zoning, building code restrictions, etc., will be applied to such lands with these other development limitations is strictly a local government judgment.

#### 7.3.5 GAINING ACCESS TO SERVICEABLE LAND

Sewers may be extended through environmentally sensitive areas to serve other lands without development limitations and identified as a planned growth area in this Plan. ~~It is recommended that all~~ All other prudent and cost-effective alternatives for this kind of sewer extension must be considered to avoid sewer extensions through such environmentally sensitive areas if possible. Subsequent development within floodplain and wetland areas adjacent to an extension shall not be approved without an amendment to the Plan.

#### 7.3.6 REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING SEWERS

This Plan does not prohibit replacing existing sewers which may lie within floodway or wetland areas.

#### 7.3.7 DESIGNATED HEALTH HAZARD CONDITIONS WITHIN THE SEWER SERVICE AREA

The extension of sewer to existing development within an environmentally sensitive area will be deemed consistent with the policies of this Plan if a documented health hazard condition exists. For purposes of this Plan, a health hazard condition exists when the County and/or State Health Departments formally direct sanitary sewer service is necessary to mitigate health problems in the area. The construction of sewers to mitigate health hazards is ultimately the decision of the local units of government. Sewer extensions to health hazard areas outside of the sewer service area will still require a Plan (boundary) amendment.

### 7.3.8 UNDESIGNATED HEALTH HAZARD AREAS

Areas currently having or thought to be susceptible to health problems due to lack of sanitary sewer should receive strong consideration by the necessary local unit(s) of government for the provision of sewer service and/or other measures which will address the problem.

## **8.0 STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY PLAN**

### **8.1 INTRODUCTION**

This section ties together the previous sections of this report to establish the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Area boundary for 2040. This official boundary is depicted in the Sewer Service Area Boundary Map, see Map 4. This boundary is administered according to the procedures and criteria outlined in Section 9 of this report.

The Areawide Water Quality Management Planning for the Wisconsin River basin, described in Section 3 of this report, is the State level planning framework for water quality management pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act. This Sewer Service Area Plan is considered an amendment to the Central Wisconsin River Basin Plan.

At the local level, this water quality management framework has two primary components: the planning for facilities to improve water quality through the cost effective collection and treatment of waste water; and the planning for an area within which those wastewater facilities can be extended while excluding environmentally sensitive areas that might impact water quality if developed. This Sewer Service Area Plan provides that second component.

The facilities planning for the Stevens Point Urban Area is described in Section 2 of this report. The processes for each of the facilities plans/studies and the process for the sewer service area plan utilize the same source material for community growth plans and projections, so theoretically, the sewer service area ~~should~~will be sized appropriately for the planned facilities, and the capacity of the facilities ~~should~~will be adequate to handle the anticipated growth.

The growth projections developed in Section 4 of this report determine what size the sewer service area should be to accommodate that growth. The environmentally sensitive areas identified in Section 5 determine where development ~~should~~must be prohibited to protect water quality: the primary purpose of this Plan. The comprehensive plans discussed in Section 6 for the various communities in the urban area are used in conjunction with the environmentally sensitive areas to help determine where the sewer service area boundary lines are drawn. The goals and objectives of this Plan, as spelled out in Section 7, are consistent with the local comprehensive plans in calling for orderly growth that protects environmentally sensitive areas and water quality.

## **8.2 SEWER SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY MAP**

The designation of a sewer service area boundary is the major element of the overall planning process of this Sewer Service Area Plan. The boundary takes into account the projections of future population, land demands, environmentally sensitive areas, and input on the part of community representatives through individual community meetings and via the Advisory Committee.

The sewer service area designated on the Boundary Map, see Map 4, in this section provides for the projected land needs of the Stevens Point Urban Area to the year 2040 as identified in Section 4. The boundary *excludes* environmentally sensitive areas, as identified in Section 5, to prohibit them from sewer development in order to protect water quality. Areas of “use restrictions” are also omitted, as discussed in Section 7. The Sewer Service Area can be amended to reflect changes in growth needs within the urban area. The boundary amendment procedures are located in Section 9 of this report.

Table 16 displays a summary of the change in the service area from the previous plan and the new 2040 plan. Overall, the sewer service area increased by 7,6187,199 acres. This represents an increase of 30 % over the previous area. which is within 1% of Based on the growth allocation calculated ~~based on~~ from growth projections in Section 4 for Stevens Point, the Village of Plover and Whiting—, the combined change is within 1% while individual community change is within 4% of allocation. The Town of Plover acreage is intended to provide for lands that may potentially be extended sewer and water utilities by the Village while remaining in the Town of Plover under their cooperative boundary agreement. The Town of Plover has the highest projected growth of the surrounding towns.

It should be noted that a number of factors are involved with the transition from the old to the new. First, many of the individual data sets that make up the map, such as parcel lines, road center lines, and environmental features such as slopes, hydro and wetlands inventory, have all been updated since the last plan and accuracy levels continue to improve. There was a significant difference in the environmentally sensitive areas data from 2007 to 2022. Additionally, ~~and~~ there are always problems, gaps, mismatches, etc, in updating old data in a GIS system. Mapping technicians adjusted the boundary line work to match up with current data, fixing gaps, slivers, alignment with obvious physical elements on the ground (parcel lines, roads, tree lines, etc.) and incorporated the updated wetland inventory and FEMA floodway data.

The remainder of the changes were the result of planning meetings with community officials. The communities identified new areas to add to the sewer service area to accommodate projected future growth. The amount of growth is projected in Section 4. In some cases, communities removed acres from the SSA because conditions have changed, making those areas less likely than other to be developed within the planning horizon.

Inclusion of lands within the Sewer Service Area does not imply that all of those lands will be developed with sanitary sewer by the year 2040. Many factors including market demand, land availability for sale, accessibility, and political decision making will ultimately determine the amount of land which is sewered by the end of the planning period.

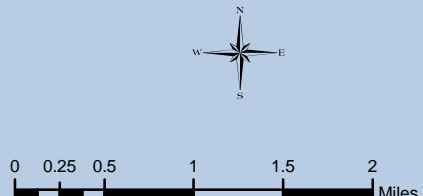
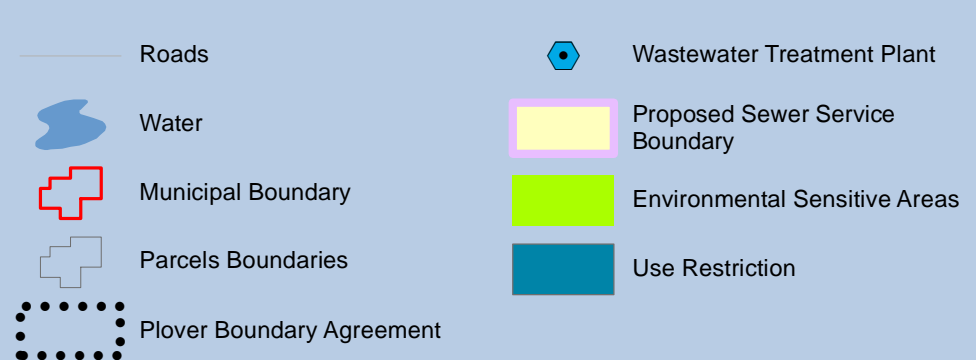
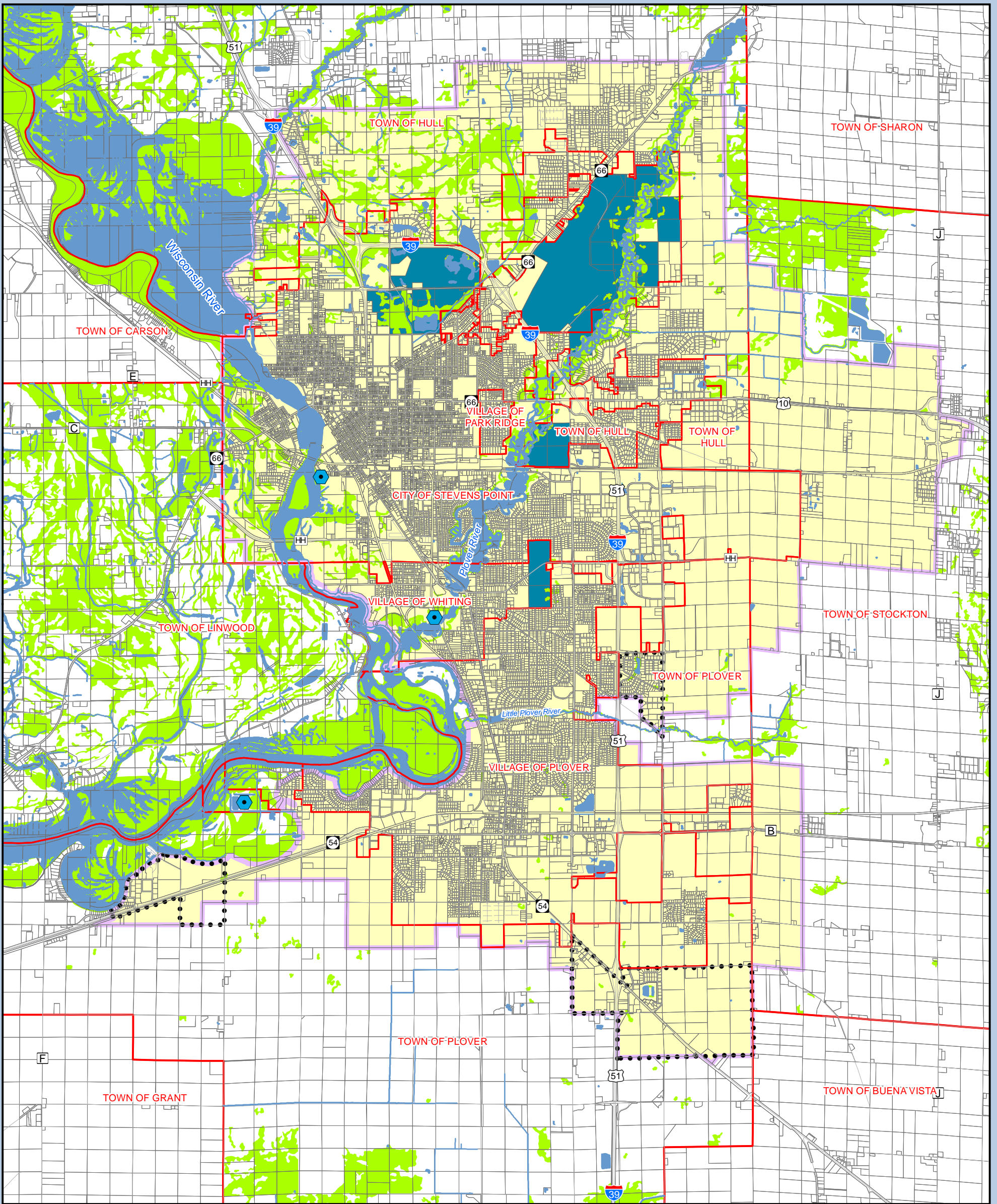
**TABLE 16: Sewer Service Area Boundary Allocations\***

	Sewer Service Area 2007 (Acres)	Sewer Service Area 2022 (Acres)	Area Added for 2040 <sup>2</sup> *** (Acres)	2040 <sup>2</sup> Allocation Target (Acres)
Stevens Point**	11,477	17,927	6,450	6,446
V. Plover	10,138	11,306	1,168	1,166
T. Plover****	1,278	1,777	499	n/a
Whiting	898	898	0	898
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23,791</b>	<b>30,990</b>	<b>7,199</b>	<b>n/a</b>

Source: NCWRPC 2022. \* Excludes area of ESAs & Use Restricted Lands.  
 \*\* Includes Park Ridge  
 \*\*\* Additions within 14% of Allocation.  
 \*\*\*\* Town area for potential sewer service under boundary agreement.

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This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only. NCRPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.

Prepared by:  
**North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission**  
 210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403  
 (715) 849-5510 www.ncwrpc.org

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## **9.0 PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND INSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES**

### **9.1 INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this section is to establish administrative procedures for the implementation of the Sewer Service Area Plan. Specific topics addressed in this section include the sewer extension review process, other local reviews of sewer service related actions, amending the sewer service area boundary/plan, and the plan updating process.

The Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee is responsible for the implementation of this Plan, and the Portage County Planning & Zoning Department has agreed to act as the designated agent for the administrative procedures established in this Plan on behalf of the Committee.

### **9.2 PROCEDURES AND REVIEW REQUIREMENTS FOR SEWER EXTENSIONS**

This process is triggered by a sewer extension project or other development project within the Stevens Point Urban Area sewer service area boundary that includes sanitary sewer requiring permits from the Department of Natural Resources or the Department of Safety and Professional Services. Proposed projects not requiring review under s.281.41 Wis. Stats., NR 108 & 110 Wis. Adm. Code or SPS 382 Wis. Adm. Code are not subject to sewer extension review under this Plan.

The local review will be conducted to determine whether or not the proposed sewer extension is in conformance with the approved Plan. NR 110, Wis. Adm. Code, requires that all sewer extensions for reviewable projects must be in conformance with the sewer service area plan. This determination will focus on the location of the proposed extension and any primary environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs); in other words, does the extension go beyond the established sewer service area boundary and does it violate an ESA? Note that a sewer line may actually cross a primary ESA if there are no other feasible options for avoiding it, but the proposed sewered development must not be in the primary ESA. The following paragraphs outline the local review process (see also Figure 2):

- 1) There are two different types of requests for the physical extension of sanitary sewer infrastructure: extension of public sewer main, and private connection to existing sewer. For the extension of public sewer, an official request form must be initiated and submitted by the Municipality in which the sewer extension is proposed (not the developer). For the extension of a “Private Interceptor Main Sewer and/or Building Sewer”, the request form may be initiated and submitted by the plumber or developer’s agent. In either case the request form and a general location map of the proposed sewer extension(s) shall be submitted to the Portage County Planning and Zoning Department. The location map **should**



must show the location and length of the proposed sewer extension and its service area. The extension request ~~should~~must be made early in the planning process to ensure that local review and approval of the extension is made prior to submittal of detailed sewer plans to the Department of Natural Resources.

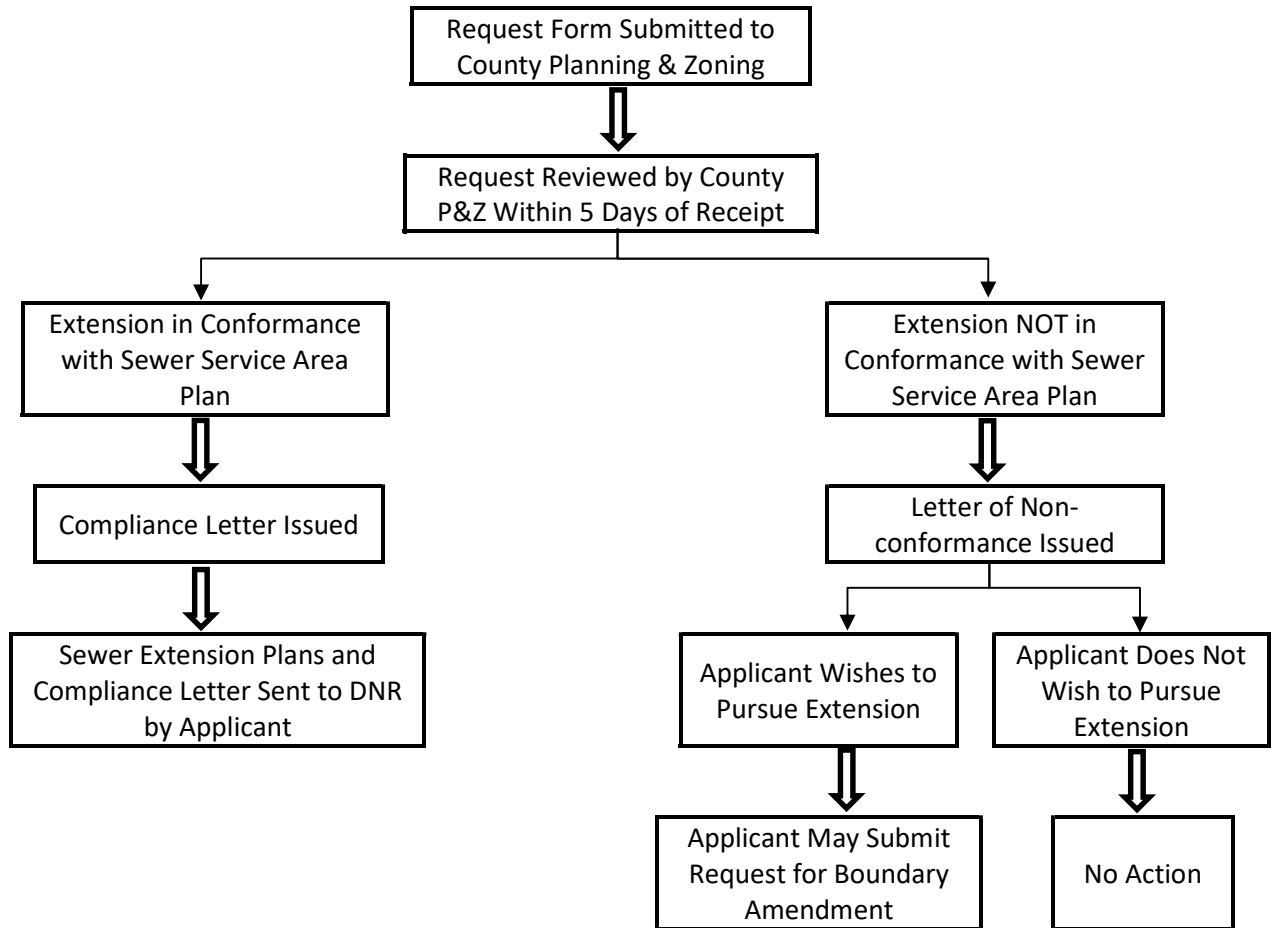
- 2) The County Planning and Zoning Department will review the sewer extension request to determine if the extension is in conformance with the Sewer Service Area Plan. Within five (5) working days of receipt of the request, the Planning and Zoning Director or his designee shall provide the applicant with the Planning and Zoning Department's review of the request. If the proposed sewer extension is in conformance with the Plan, the Planning and Zoning Department shall approve the request and so indicate on the sewer extension request form. This form would then be returned to the applicant, to be attached to the sewer extension plans to be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources by the applicant.
- 3) If the proposed extension is not in conformance with the Sewer Service Area Plan, or if there are questions about consistency, the applicant will be notified of such by the Planning and Zoning Department within five (5) days. The proposed extension will be submitted to the Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee for their consideration if an amendment to the Plan is requested.
- 4) Within thirty (30) days of the initial receipt of the sewer extension request by the Planning Department, the Sewer Service Advisory Committee shall meet to review the amendment request (see boundary amendment procedures, below). The Committee's decision on the request will be transmitted in writing by the Planning Department to the applicant and to the Department of Natural Resources.
- 5) Sewer extension requests or Plan amendments denied by the Sewer Service Advisory Committee may be appealed directly to the Department of Natural Resources.

### **9.3 REVIEW OF PLUMBING PLANS SUBMITTED FOR STATE APPROVAL**

Plumbing plans for certain types of plumbing installations require a conformance letter under Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter SPS 382.20(4)(b)2.a. Before the Department of Safety and Professional Services can approve the plumbing plans, the contractor needs a conformance letter from the water quality planning agency (Portage County Planning & Zoning Office) stating that the proposed structure is within the sewer service area but not within a primary environmentally sensitive area. The review procedure for such plumbing plans follows the same outline as for sewer extensions, above.

**FIGURE 2: SEWER EXTENSION REVIEW PROCESS FLOW DIAGRAM**

**STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN**



Please contact the Portage County Planning & Zoning Department at (715) 346-1334 with any questions.

## **9.4 OTHER REVIEWS**

From time to time, the Department of Natural Resources or other state agency may request / require review of various activities related to sewer service, but not specifically identified within this Plan. These reviews ~~should~~will parallel procedures established in this Section. If it is determined that the requested review does not fit within guidelines of this Plan, the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee ~~should~~will meet to discuss and make a recommendation.

## **9.5 PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS FOR AMENDING THE SEWER SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY**

Sewer service area boundary line amendments may be requested by the municipality in which the amendment is desired. The following amendment procedure is provided to give municipalities and private developers the needed flexibility to accommodate unanticipated community growth, additional technical data, or new community needs. Two types of sewer service area boundary amendments are possible.

- ❖ **Type I Boundary Amendment.** The Type I Boundary Amendment occurs when a community requests to amend its service area boundary without increasing the total land area that the community has within its sewer service area. For every acre of land which is added to the community's service area, an area of developable land of equal size must be removed from their service area. This type of amendment is provided to accommodate unanticipated shifts in the location of future growth as identified by this Plan. Under this amendment procedure, total community growth served by sewer service is expected to remain approximately the same as provided for in the Plan.
- ❖ **Type II Boundary Amendment.** A Type II Boundary Amendment occurs when a community amends its sewer service area boundary and increases its total service area acreage. The primary justification for a Type II Boundary Amendment is for unanticipated new population or mercantile growth to be served by sanitary sewers above that which was projected in the Sewer Service Area Plan.

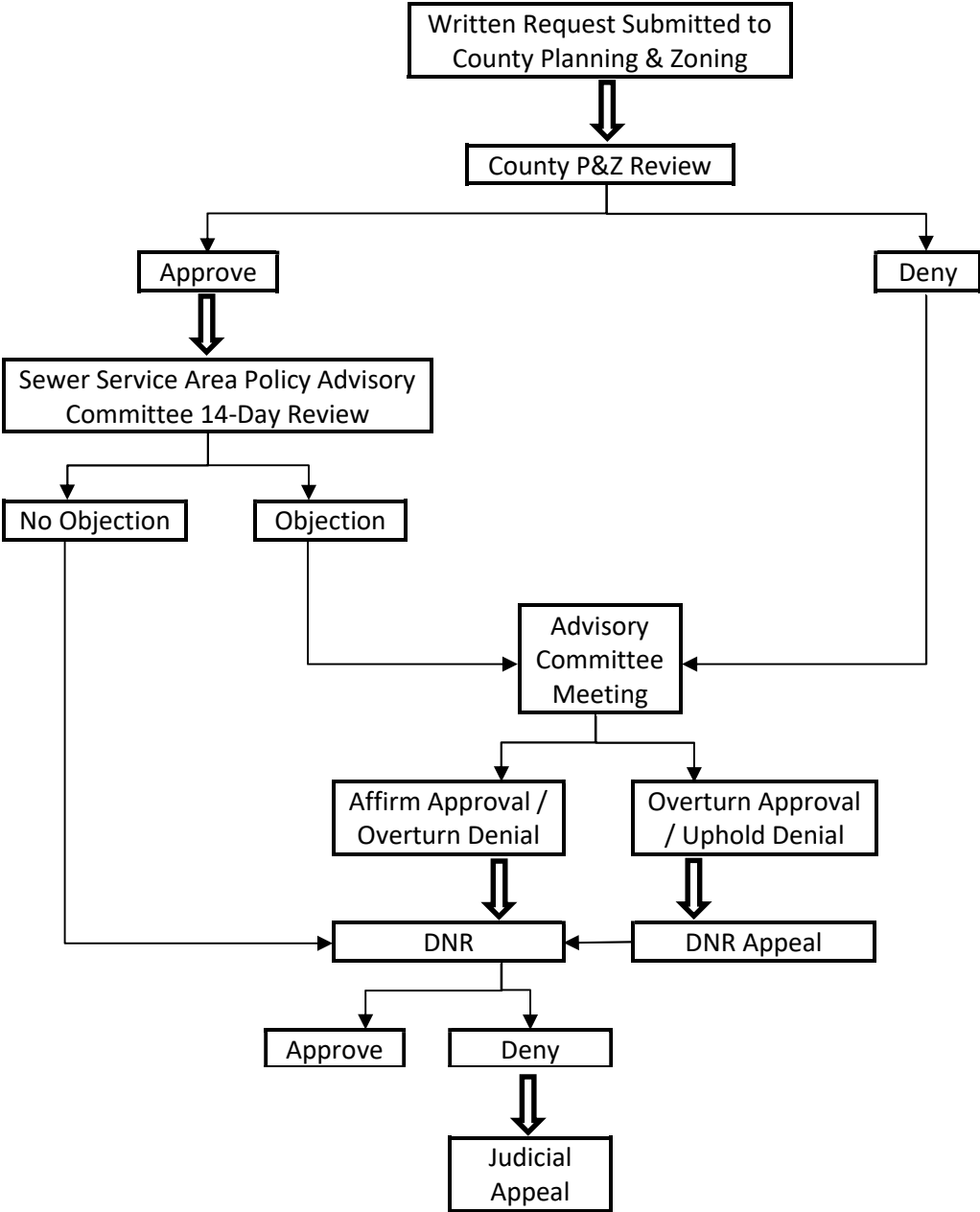
### **9.5.1 BOUNDARY AMENDMENT PROCEDURES**

For Type I and Type II Boundary Amendment Requests, the following procedures shall be followed (see also Figures 3 and 4):

1. The municipality requesting the change shall submit a written request for a boundary amendment to the Portage County Planning and Zoning Department, acting as administrative agent for the Advisory Committee. The request shall include the following information:

FIGURE 3: TYPE I AMENDMENT PROCESS FLOW DIAGRAM

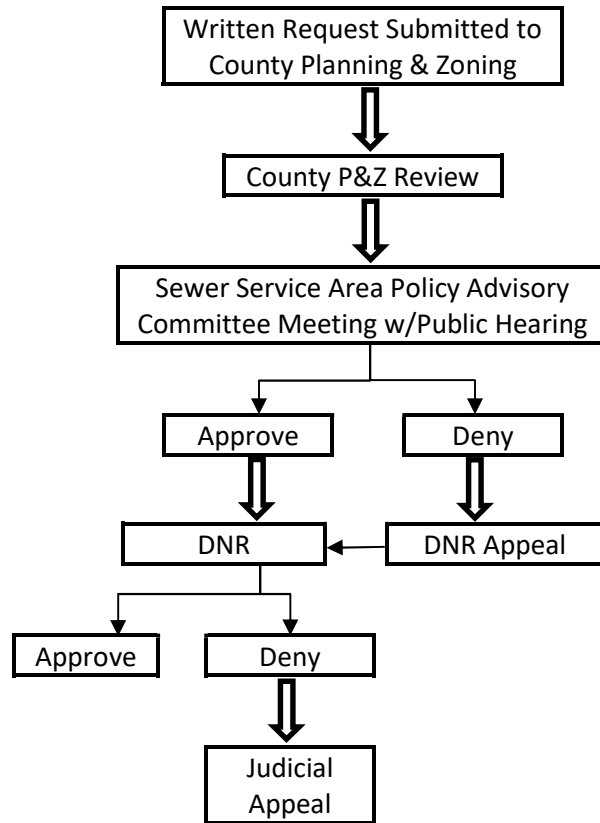
STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN





**FIGURE 4: TYPE II AMENDMENT PROCESS FLOW DIAGRAM**  
**STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN**

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- a. A map showing the location and extent of the property, including the acreage.
  - b. A general description of the development proposal.
  - c. A general timetable for implementing the proposal.
  - d. Submission by the local engineer, consultant, or the designated agent of the municipality of a description of how the proposed development would affect the capacity of the community's treatment plant and related collection system or any other information judged to be relevant to the application.
  - e. In the case of a Type I Amendment request, a map showing the boundaries and acreage of the land which the community would like considered for removal from the sewer service area. The acreage of this land shall be equal to the amount that is being requested to be added to the service area.
  - f. In the case of a Type II Amendment request, a comparison of the growth projections of the Sewer Service Area Plan with the actual population and mercantile growth which the community has experienced.
2. **Approval for Type I requests.** Upon receipt of the amendment request from the community, the Planning and Zoning Department will review the request for compliance with the boundary amendment standards listed below. Planning and Zoning Department staff may approve the request if compliance is found. Notification of the approval shall be forwarded to the Sewer Service Advisory Committee members. Committee members shall have fourteen (14) days to register any objections to the approval with the Planning and Zoning Department. If such objection is registered, a meeting of the Sewer Service Advisory Committee will be scheduled at the earliest possible date for review and action.

If for any reason the Planning and Zoning Department is unable to approve the request, it will be referred to the Sewer Service Advisory Committee for review and action.

3. **Approval for Type II requests.** Upon receipt of the amendment request from the community, the Planning and Zoning Department will schedule a public hearing on the request before the Sewer Service Advisory Committee.

Planning and Zoning Department staff shall prepare a staff report for review and consideration by the Sewer Service Advisory Committee which assesses the completeness of information submitted in support of any sewer service area adjustment request. The report shall also assess the degree to which the request meets the boundary amendment standards listed below.

4. The decision (by Committee or Planning and Zoning Department) will be transmitted in writing to the applicant and the Department of Natural Resources. The Department of Natural Resources has final approval authority over all amendments. Any amendment requests denied by the Advisory Committee may be appealed by the applicant to the Department of Natural Resources.

#### 9.5.2 BOUNDARY AMENDMENT STANDARDS

In order to provide an equitable and uniform basis for revising the sewer service boundaries, all proposed amendments ~~should~~must meet standards 1 through 3 below, and either standard 4 or 5.

1. There will be minimal adverse impact on water quality from the development which would be made possible by the amendment.
2. Existing or planned sewage facilities and interceptors must have sufficient capacity to transport and treat the projected wastewater flows generated by the added territory.
3. The boundary amendment and proposed development must be in conformance with adopted local community comprehensive plans and the established goals and policies of the Sewer Service Area Plan.
4. **For a Type I amendment**, the configuration of the sewer service area boundary may be modified provided there is no increase in the total acreage projected in the Sewer Service Area Plan for a particular community. Modifications of the boundary ~~should~~must be shown to be cost-effective, orderly, and a logical extension of urban development. This type of amendment would most likely occur where urban development in a particular location abuts the current limits of a community's service area and requires sewer service. Also, where a developer or municipality proposes additional development beyond this boundary in conformance with adopted local plans, an amendment would be considered. Since this type of boundary amendment does not involve an increase in the total service area acreage, an area which is equal to the amount of land added must be removed from the service area.
5. **For a Type II amendment**, the established acreage of a community's sewer service area ~~should~~will be increased only when it can be demonstrated that the circumstances and/or market forces leading to the request (residential or nonresidential) were not anticipated at the time the Sewer Service Area Plan's projected growth rate for the community was projected. Any amendments under this site-specific boundary adjustment standard ~~should~~must also be cost-effective, orderly, and a logical extension of urban development. One of the following criteria must be met for a Type II amendment:

- A. There is a documented need for a sanitary sewer collection system for areas of existing development.
- B. There is a documented need for sanitary sewer to serve a proposed unique facility or development.
- C. There is a documented need for flexibility to accommodate unanticipated short-term development required for reasonable community growth that is consistent with adopted community plans.
- D. An environmentally sensitive area is re-designated provided there are no significant adverse water quality impacts.
- E. There is an error in the maps, data, projections or allocations of the adopted Plan.

## **9.6 OTHER PLAN AMENDMENTS**

Except for sewer service area boundary changes which follow the specific procedures above, any other amendments to this Plan will require approval of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee.

Proposed amendments ~~should~~will be submitted to members of the Sewer Service Advisory Committee at least one week prior to the meeting at which action on the amendment is expected to be taken. Amendments approved by the Committee will be transmitted by the Portage County Planning & Zoning Office to the WDNR for review and final approval.

## **9.7 APPEALS**

The department will accept a designated management agency (DMA), i.e. community that operates wastewater treatment system, appeal of an amendment proposal that has been denied by a water quality planning agency. The department does not accept revisions or personal appeals submitted by developers, individuals or other organizations.

Any person aggrieved by a Department of Natural Resources water quality management plan decision has the right to file a judicial appeal of the decision. Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative Code establish time periods within which requests to review department decisions must be filed. For judicial review of a decision pursuant to s.227.52 and 227.53, Wisconsin Statutes, a petition for review must be filed with the appropriate circuit court within 30 days after service of the decision. The respondent in an action for judicial appeal is the WDNR.

## **9.8 NOTIFICATION OF LARGE-SCALE ON-SITE WASTE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS**

The Portage County Planning and Zoning Department On-Site Waste Section will notify the appropriate Engineer and Building Inspector of all applications for on-site waste disposal systems of a capacity of 1,500 gallons per day/per acre or greater, applied for within the sewer service areas of Stevens Point, Whiting, and Plover.

## **9.9 SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN UPDATE**

The Sewer Service Area Plan should have a comprehensive review by the Sewer Service Advisory Committee every five years. If it is determined that a major update is required, the update ~~should~~must include the following as a minimum:

- A review and update of the urban area growth trends and population projections.
- A review of the population (development) densities, household size change, and urban development trends in the area.
- An assessment of any significant changes to environmentally significant lands in the area.
- An assessment of any major land use changes or developments in the Stevens Point urban area.
- Any necessary revisions to the goals and policies of the Sewer Service Area Plan.
- A revised sewer service area boundary extended to accommodate the urban area's projected growth.
- A brief description of any amendments to the Plan and service area boundaries which were made prior to the comprehensive update.
- Any necessary revisions to the Plan implementation and institutional procedures.
- A public hearing on the updated Sewer Service Area Plan.

## **9.10 INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE FOR CONTINUING PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

With the approval of this Sewer Service Area Plan an institutional structure is established whereby the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee will continue to function as the local policy body responsible to the Department of Natural Resources for maintaining this Sewer Service Area Plan under NR 121 of the Administrative Code. The Committee will continue to function under the by-laws adopted by the Committee on November 9, 1982, as amended on January 3, 2007.

Under this institutional structure, the Portage County Planning and Zoning Department will function as the administrative agent for the Sewer Service Advisory Committee in accordance with the Committee's by-laws and the Planning and Zoning Department's Annual Work Program as approved by the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee. As agent for the Committee, the Planning and Zoning Department is responsible for assisting the Committee with all its administrative functions, and for providing professional planning advice.

### **9.11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND HEARING REQUIREMENTS**

The broad make-up of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee has, in itself, enabled the preparation of this Sewer Service Area Plan to reflect the desires and needs of the various urban area units of government.

Other measures taken to provide for public participation include: public notice of all Committee meetings, individual community meetings, and a public hearing on the Plan.

After taking testimony and comments on the Plan at the public hearing, the Committee shall take action to adopt the Sewer Service Area Plan incorporating any comments from the hearing which the Committee deems appropriate to be included in the Sewer Service Area Plan. The Plan will then be transmitted to the Department of Natural Resources for formal review and approval.

Upon approval of the Sewer Service Area Plan by the Department of Natural Resources, the Committee shall send notification of the approval of the Plan to each of the member communities. The notice shall inform them of the Plan's existence and necessity for the community to make local staff and developers aware of the need to coordinate their development proposals with the requirements of the Sewer Service Area Plan.

APPENDIX A  
STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN

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*Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee Bylaws*

BY-LAWS  
of the  
Stevens Point Urban Area  
Sewer Service Advisory Committee

PREAMBLE

In accordance with the ongoing relationship between the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Portage County Planning and Zoning Department, a Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee is formed and may adopt by-laws to govern its operation. It is the intent of this Advisory Committee to enact these by-laws, consistent with the laws of the State of Wisconsin, to further define its role and operating procedures. The Advisory Committee's function is to provide recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Department in producing the Stevens Point urban area's "Areawide Water Quality Management Plan", a component of the State's Water Quality Management Plan. After completion of the local Plan, the Advisory Committee is intended to have local review authority over local sewer boundary expansions and other amendments to the above local Plan.

Article I – Name of Committee

Section 1. The name of this committee shall be the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee, and hereinafter shall be referred to as the Advisory Committee.

Article II – Authority and Purpose

Section 1. Section 208 of Public Law 92-500 passed by Congress in 1972 requires the State of Wisconsin to prepare areawide water quality management plans to achieve the overall goal of making Wisconsin's water fishable and swimmable.

Section 2. Pursuant to the mandates of Public Law 92-500, the Wisconsin Legislature created Chapters 281.11, and 283.83 of the Wisconsin Statutes, which authorizes the DNR to organize a comprehensive State program for the enhancement and protection of all waters of the State. Under this authority, Chapter NR121 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code was established specifying the policies, procedures, and requirements for Wisconsin's areawide water quality planning process.

Section 3. NR121.05(g)(4) requires that an Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (AWQMP) be prepared for urban areas over 10,000 in population. The overall purpose of this plan and planning process is to:

- Protect and enhance water quality.
- Encourage the most cost-effective method of providing public services, particularly wastewater treatment.
- Protect environmentally sensitive areas.



Section NR121.05(g)(4) further specifies that preparation of this AWQMP should be carried out by a local planning agency in conjunction with a local policy advisory committee consisting of representatives of the various local units of government within the planning area.

### Article III – Functions and Responsibilities

Section 1. The overall function of the Advisory Committee shall be to oversee and guide the preparation of an AWQMP for the Stevens Point Urban Area to be part of the State’s “Water Quality Management Plan” in accordance with Wisconsin Administrative Code NR121.05(g). In carrying out this overall function, the Advisory Committee shall be responsible for:

- A. The establishment of all policy matters of the AWQMP, including guidance to the Portage County Planning and Zoning Department in development of the Plan. The Advisory Committee and Portage County Planning and Zoning Department shall develop this Plan in accord with an agreed upon schedule.
- B. The establishment of institutional mechanisms and procedures for monitoring and review of all sanitary sewer extensions, based upon wastewater treatment plant capacity, within the Stevens Point Urban Area as required by the Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- C. The establishment of procedures for Sewer Service Plan amendments and updates consistent with Wisconsin Administrative Code Section NR121.08.
- D. During development and prior to formal adoption, this Areawide Water Quality Management Plan shall be subject to a public participation process including, at a minimum, one public hearing.

### Article IV – Membership and Administration

Section 1 – Membership. There shall be eight (8) voting members on the Advisory Committee, consisting of one member from each of the following municipalities in Portage County:

City of Stevens Point	Town of Hull
Village of Plover	Town of Plover
Village of Whiting	Town of Linwood
Village of Park Ridge	Town of Stockton

Section 2 – Membership Selection.

- A. Principal Representative. The governing body (City Council, Village/Town Board) of each municipality to be represented on the Advisory Committee shall appoint (at its discretion) its chief elected official or a representative elected by a majority vote of the governing body. Any appointed designee, as the principal representative, shall also be an elected official of the community.

- B. Alternate Representatives. In addition to appointing the principal representative to the Advisory Committee, the governing body of each municipality shall also select one or more alternate representatives that shall be entitled to full voting privileges on all matters coming before the Advisory Committee in the absence of the principal member. Alternate representatives shall not serve in a permanent or regular capacity on the Advisory Committee. The alternate representatives shall announce to the Advisory Committee at the commencement of the meeting his/her name and representative capacity. A list of alternate members will be maintained by the Planning and Zoning Department.
- C. Term of Appointment. Persons appointed to the Advisory Committee as principal or alternate representatives by each local governing body shall serve for a period designated by the local governing body.

Section 3 – Ex-Officio Members. The County Planning and Zoning Director, as Project Director of the AWQMP, or his/her designee, shall be an ex-officio member of the Advisory Committee for the principal purpose of functioning as the Advisory Committee’s administrative officer. Ex-Officio members shall not be entitled to hold any office within this Committee or vote on any matters before the Advisory Committee. The ex-officio member or his/her designee shall be in attendance at all meetings of the Advisory Committee for the principal function of recording the proceedings, decisions, and voting records of the Advisory Committee. As an ex-officio member of the Advisory Committee, the County Planning and Zoning Director or his/her designee shall be responsible for the following specific duties:

- A. Preparation and distribution of all agendas, minutes, and correspondence for the Advisory Committee; and
- B. Recording the minutes of all Advisory Committee meetings; and
- C. The keeping of all resolutions, transactions, findings, determinations, and plan(s) of the Advisory Committee; and
- D. Preparation of a staff report, for review and consideration by the Advisory Committee, which assesses the completeness of information submitted in support of any sewer service area adjustment request. The report shall also assess the degree to which the request meets the criteria set forth in the Stevens Point Urban Area Areawide Water Quality Management Plan for approval.

Section 4 – Officers. The Officers of the Advisory Committee shall be a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

- A. Chairperson. The Chairperson of the Advisory Committee shall preside at all meetings of the Advisory Committee. The Chairperson shall perform such duties as are entrusted to the Chairperson by these by-laws.
- B. Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall preside in the absence of the Chairperson, or in the event that the Chairperson is incapacitated or unable to serve.

- C. Selection of Officers. Selection of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be made by the Advisory Committee. Nominations shall be made by Advisory Committee members and confirmed by a simple majority vote of the Advisory Committee. Should any office become vacant for any cause, the Advisory Committee may select a successor from the Advisory Committee members who may serve until the next meeting of the Advisory Committee, at which time the Advisory Committee shall elect a replacement under these same procedures.
- D. Removal from Office. Any of the officers may be removed for cause or if incapacitated or unable to participate in Advisory Committee meetings or to attend to the affairs of their office. Removal from office shall require a simple majority vote of the Advisory Committee members present.
- E. Additional Officers. The Advisory Committee, at any regular meeting, may create such additional officers from among Advisory Committee members as they deem necessary and prescribe their duties.
- F. Term Limits. The term of office for Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, or any additional Officers shall be limited to one year. If the period of time between meetings exceeds one year, selection of Officers shall be made at the beginning of the next meeting after the one year period; the term of office shall extend until this vote.

Section 5 – Subcommittees. The Chairperson may appoint such subcommittees, made up of Advisory Committee members only, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the Advisory Committee, and shall designate the Chairperson of such subcommittee(s). Appointment of subcommittees and a Chairperson of such subcommittee shall be subject to confirmation by the Advisory Committee as a whole. No subcommittees shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Advisory Committee.

Section 6 – Guidance. The officers, members, and staff of the Advisory Committee shall be guided by the regulations and guidelines of relevant federal legislation; by the regulations and guidelines promulgated by federal agencies; by the laws enacted by the State of Wisconsin, and by regulations and guidelines promulgated by agencies thereof. Goals and objectives, comprehensive plans, development guides, and similar guidelines and documents prepared and adopted by the participating communities and the County shall be recognized and considered by the Advisory Committee and its staff whenever appropriate. To add technical expertise to Advisory Committee decisions, Advisory Committee members may ask their representative community officials and staff to attend Advisory Committee meetings and to provide information necessary to the preparation of the AWQMP and its amendment. These officials may include, but are not limited to: Public Works Director, engineers, planning staff, attorneys, consultants, etc.

Section 7 – Voting. Principal representatives, who are appointed by their communities to serve as official representatives on the Advisory Committee, shall be entitled to full voting and membership privileges on all matters before the Advisory Committee. A community's alternate representative shall be entitled to full voting privileges on all matters coming before the Advisory Committee in the absence of the principal member. Members or their alternates must be personally in attendance to vote on matters before the Committee.

The format for voting on the Advisory Committee By-Laws, AWQMP, AWQMP amendments, and sewer service area boundary adjustments shall be in accordance with the following schedule, with a minimum of 51 votes out of the 100 vote total constituting a majority vote.

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Total Votes</b>
City of Stevens Point	31
Village of Plover	18
Village of Whiting	11
Village of Park Ridge	8
Town of Hull	8
Town of Plover	8
Town of Linwood	8
Town of Stockton	8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100</b>

#### Article V – Meetings

Section 1 – Frequency and Notice. It is recommended that the Advisory Committee meet on an as-needed basis. Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson or by four (4) Advisory Committee members at more frequent intervals. The recording secretary of the Advisory Committee shall mail or deliver written notice of each regular meeting to each member of the Advisory Committee at least five (5) days prior to such meeting.

Section 2 – Quorum. A simple majority of the full Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of carrying on any business of the Advisory Committee at any duly called meeting thereof. A quorum shall be required for the Advisory Committee to take action on any agenda item.

Section 3 – Conduct of Meetings. Advisory Committee meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws and with the provisions of Robert’s Rules of Order.

Section 4 – Approval of Meeting Minutes. Advisory Committee meeting minutes shall be approved, if possible, at the next scheduled Advisory Committee meeting. Approval of minutes shall require a simple majority vote of those members present.

#### Article VI – General

Section 1 – Planning Staff. The Portage County Planning and Zoning Department will provide ongoing assistance to the Advisory Committee in accordance with these by-laws and the Planning and Zoning Department’s annual work program as approved by the Portage County Planning and Zoning Committee.

Section 2 – Cooperating Agencies. The Advisory Committee may cooperate with and contribute to or accept services from Federal, State, or local agencies, public or semi-public agencies, private individuals or corporations, and may carry out such cooperative undertaking. In carrying out such cooperative undertaking, the Advisory Committee shall not obligate any financial, staff, or other municipal resources of any municipality without prior approval of such municipal unit.

Section 3 – Compliance with Local and State Laws. In the event that these by-laws or any provisions herein contained should in any manner be contrary to or violative of the provisions of any local or State laws, the provisions of the local and State laws shall prevail.

Section 4 – Amendments. Proposed amendments to these by-laws shall be mailed to members at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting scheduled for proposed amending of the by-laws. (See Article IV Section 7 for voting procedure).

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2007.

I hereby certify that the foregoing by-laws were duly adopted by the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee at a legal meeting held on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2007.

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Stephen D. Brazzale, Director  
Portage County Planning and Zoning Department  
Advisory Committee Administrative Officer

**APPENDIX B**  
**STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN**

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*Planning Process Documentation*



# PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

1462 STRONGS AVENUE, STEVENS POINT, WI 54481 • PHONE: 715-346-1334 • FAX: 715-346-1677

## MEETING NOTICE

Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee  
Friday, January 21, 2022 – 10 am  
Conference Room 5, County Annex Third Floor  
1462 Strong's Avenue, Stevens Point, WI

## AGENDA

1. Members of the Public Who Wish to Address the Committee on Specific Agenda Items Must Register Their Request at This Time, With Such Comments Subject to the Reasonable Control of the Committee Chair as Set Forth in Robert's Rules of Order
2. Call to Order
3. Committee Member Introductions
4. Review of Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee Bylaws
5. Overview of Sewer Service Area Planning Process – 2022-2042 Plan Update
6. Discuss Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity
7. Discuss Development Trends and Issues/Concerns Related to Sewer Service Area
8. Discuss Community American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Allocation Plans
9. Discuss Next Meeting Date, Including Possible Virtual Attendance Option
10. Adjournment

**NOTICE:** *A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors or any committee thereof may be present at this meeting.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting should contact the Planning and Zoning Department as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made. Telephone 715-346-1334.  
\*\*\*\*\*

PLANNING • ZONING AND CODE ADMINISTRATION • LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION

ON-SITE WASTE • GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT • ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS PARK DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES – Project Kick-Off Meeting  
 Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee  
 January 21, 2022

Municipality	Primary Member	Present	Alternate Member	Present	Technical Staff / Others Present
City of Stevens Point	Mike Wiza		Joel Lemke	X	Ryan Kernosky
Village of Park Ridge	Steve Menzel		Paul McGinley		
Village of Plover	Steve Kunst	X	Dan Ault		
Village of Whiting	Kevin Lutz		Nic Schmeiser	X	Jake Wilcox
Town of Hull	Dave Wilz	X	Jan Way	X	
Town of Linwood	Howard Krieski	X	Daniel Wimme		
Town of Plover	Jim Garbe		Deb Sniadajewski	X	
Town of Stockton	Mike Bronk		Jeanne Dodge		

North Central Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission Staff Present: Darryl Landeau and Dennis Lawrence  
 Others Present: Al Haga, Portage County Board Chair  
 Staff Present: Tim Reed, Kristen Johnson, and Paula Cummings, Portage County Planning and Zoning Department

1. Members of the Public Who Wish to Address the Committee on Specific Agenda Items Must Register Their Request at this Time, with Such Comments Subject to the Reasonable Control of the Committee Chair as Set Forth in Robert's Rules of Order

No members of the public were present.

2. Call to Order

Landeau called the kick-off meeting of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory (SSA) Committee to order at 10:04 am in Conference Room 5 of the County Annex. Landeau provided those present with a copy of the current sewer service area boundary map as approved by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on October 22, 2008.

3. Committee Member Introductions

Those present (see chart above) introduced themselves, noting the municipality they represent and position within that municipality.

4. Review of Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee Bylaws

(NOTE: Bylaws were included in the Committee meeting packet emailed prior to the meeting.)

Landeau referred to the bylaws and noted the sewer service process began as a requirement of the Clean Water Act as mandated by the State. Main purposes of the Plan, which covers urban areas with a 10,000+ population, includes protect/enhance water quality, encourage cost-effective methods of providing public services, protect environmentally sensitive areas, and reduce sprawl. The plan boundary is based on projected growth and sewer service development. The Plan update process will include review/re-establishment of the boundary, and review of environmental areas, which can be amended as necessary. Landeau noted the plan update is overdue and should be reviewed every 10 years, on a 20-year cycle. Membership consists of urban core municipalities, and an election of chair and vice-chair will take place at the next meeting. Landeau referred members to page 5 of the bylaws, where a weighted voting structure is described. He noted 51 votes out of the potential 100 votes constitutes a majority vote.

Kunst asked for clarification that attending a meeting virtually, would align with the currently required "personally attend" stipulation, and after brief discussion, members agreed virtual attendance would be accepted. Kunst then asked for a description of how the weighted vote was calculated. Landeau noted he had seen other SSA committees he worked with have a weighted vote based on population. He further noted our sewer service boundary population today is similar to 2007, which is the last time the weighed vote was reviewed. Cummings offered to research past records for a more detailed description.



Lawrence noted the previous SSA Committee Chair was from Park Ridge and the Vice-Chair was from the Village of Plover. An election will be on the next agenda and then the Chair will run these meetings. Cummings suggested anyone interested in either position contact Reed with their interest and to ask any questions they may have.

5. Overview of Sewer Service Area Planning Process – 2022-2042 Plan Update

Landeau felt a review of key plan elements could take place in 2-3 meetings (bi-monthly). Wastewater facilities will be discussed and determined as to how they will fit into the plan. Growth projections from the Department of Administration, census data, and comprehensive plan information will be utilized. He noted the following will also take place: review of environmentally sensitive areas, goals and policies, and administrative procedures, to then determine what the sewer service boundary needs to look like. Text will then be updated/revised and agreed to by municipalities represented on the committee, based on these reviews. Lawrence stated the hope is to have the update completed in 6 meetings and referred to the current boundary map provided today. The update may change boundary lines when factoring-in population and removing environmentally sensitive areas.

Kernosky referenced best practices being followed based on existing conditions/developments and taken into consideration, such as Crossroads Commons/County Road HH line for sewer service boundary. Lawrence felt those issues need to be identified and discussed, and then determine how it relates to the plan. He noted the DNR looks from an areawide perspective, not a political aspect. Kernosky said his point was whether the plan is considered a political document or best practice. Lawrence replied the document is best practice; system-wide best practice.

6. Discuss Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity

Landeau asked the City of Stevens Point, Village of Plover and Village of Whiting to describe their treatment plants. **Village of Plover:** Kunst stated capacity is not a concern; they have vast capacity to handle current and future growth. Landeau asked if there are any issues and Kunst replied they are dealing with Phosphorus and believe Nitrates will be coming soon. **Village of Whiting:** Schmeiser reported they are using 1/3 of the capacity after a 2009 upgrade. Landeau asked about issues and Schmeiser replied there are none known, and they should be okay on Phosphorus. **City of Stevens Point:** Lemke stated on the liquid side, they are close to 50%; at 2.2 million gpd of a 4.4 million gpd capacity. As for solids, they are a bit over 50%; at 5-6,000 pounds per day of a 10,500 pounds per day capacity. Lemke noted this is not a simple figure because consumption changes; it is a rating only. A new rating could have a minor upgrade. Landeau referenced nitrate statistics and how that impacts plants. Kernosky said that is hypothetical and the DNR has not come out with anything. Lemke referenced Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) are not at a need for upgrade but felt that would be a common theme as it comes down from the DNR. As for cities and tertiary treatment, he felt they are all thinking about it. He then referenced PFAS, noting those have an implication for Wisconsin and is more a solid waste issue. The City takes leachate but felt “we are all in this together”. Lemke referred to distributed resources – large communities vs. other resources such as a regional treatment plant and felt this should be part of the committee’s discussion. Landeau said discussion on regionalization is required by the DNR and pros/cons will be discussed.

Lawrence asked about operational, customer, and/or cost issues. Schmeiser felt rates are a concern as a lower number of users equals a higher cost.

7. Discuss Development Trends and Issues/Concerns Related to Sewer Service Area

Landeau noted comprehensive plans address future development and asked municipalities if their plans are current. Johnson stated the Town of Hull is updating their plan, which should be finished this year, Linwood’s plan is almost done, and the Town of Plover just finished theirs. Kunst stated the Village of Plover is getting back into an update that should be done before the end of the year. Kernosky noted the City of Stevens Point’s 2015 update was not adopted and they will begin again this summer with a focus on neighborhoods, which is a 3-4 year process.

Landeau asked about trends. Kunst stated the focus of the Village of Plover will be infill of higher density redevelopment, i.e.: downtown area. There is a challenge with annexation and sewer/water, and they are working with the Town of Plover. Commercial and manufacturing development has out-paced other areas of development. They would like to see suburban neighborhoods and more subdivisions. Kernosky said the City has lost some population and they are challenging the census data, but acknowledges it must be utilized. Kunst referenced residential development (single family development by Smiley’s) and general commercial growth, with additional commercial growth coming. Schmeiser said the Village of Whiting is a bit condensed with some residential and some commercial. He noted since 2007, the Village lost a huge industrial user with the papermill closing in 2013.

Landeau then asked about trends in the townships. Sniadajewski described very light residential development and a potential solar farm that is being proposed on the southwest portion of the town into the Town of Grant. This is in preliminary stages. There is concern about sewer service based around Shooter's/Kwik Trip/Highway 51 and I39 intersection/hotel and the extension of sewer and water there to help with their needs. Wilz stated there are 10-12 homes per year going up in the Town of Hull. Kunst stated politics should be taken out of the discussion, and with seven planners on the committee, we should be able to come up with a good plan. He acknowledged the City and Village had challenges in the past and current staff are willing to work together. Let's implement best practice and remove politics. Lemke noted the last sewer service area map shows a proposed Town of Plover boundary. Kunst stated the Village and Town of Plover have a boundary agreement, which was approved – areas were sewerer without annexation.

8. Discuss Community American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Allocation Plans

Landeau asked where communities are with ARPA spending plans. Lawrence asked if any plans would impact the sewer service process or areas. This information can be used in the planning process. Kunst stated the Village of Plover is in early stages of prioritizing expenditures. Lemke noted the City is initially adding 20% to annual reconstruction costs. Schmeiser said the Village of Whiting is preliminarily looking at a 50/50 split between sewer and water.

9. Discuss Next Meeting Date, Including Possible Virtual Attendance Option

Landeau said the next meeting would be in March, as they hope to meet bi-monthly. Some members felt Friday morning was not the best time to meet. It was decided that Cummings would send a Doodle poll to members offering Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday morning or afternoon to determine what day of week and time of day is preferred. Members agreed that meetings should be offered both in-person and virtual. Lawrence stated meetings should be held to 1 or 1.5 hours. Landeau reminded members a Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected at the March meeting.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:09 am.

# STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 29, 2022 – 2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 5, County Annex Third Floor  
1462 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, WI

## AGENDA

### REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone: dial 1-608-338-1399, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 618 020 214, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Due to COVID-19 and the potential risk to members of the public who attend meetings in-person, any person who plans to attend the meeting remotely, but wishes to comment on an agenda item can send their comments via email to reedt@co.portage.wi.us. The deadline for sending comments by email is 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Emailed comments will be delivered to committee members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Remote comment by the public during the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair.

1. Call to Order / Attendance
2. PUBLIC NOTICE: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their requests at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order
3. Introductions
4. Nomination and Election of Officers
5. Review/Approval of Minutes from January 21, 2022
6. Review of Advisory Committee Vote Allocation within Bylaws
7. Discuss Planning Area Population and Growth Projections
8. Review Environmentally Sensitive Area Designations
9. Next Meeting Date
10. Adjournment

**NOTICE:** *A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors  
or any committee thereof may be present at this meeting.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting should contact the Planning and Zoning Department as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made. Telephone 715-346-1334.

MINUTES  
Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee  
March 29, 2022

Municipality	Primary Member	Present	Alternate Member	Present	Technical Staff / Others Present
City of Stevens Point	Mike Wiza		Joel Lemke	X	Ryan Kernosky
Village of Park Ridge	Steve Menzel	X	Paul McGinley		
Village of Plover	Steve Kunst	X	Dan Ault		
Village of Whiting	Kevin Lutz		Jake Wilcox	X	
Town of Hull	Dave Wilz	X	Jan Way	X	
Town of Linwood	Howard Krieski		<b>Vacant</b>		
Town of Plover	Jim Garbe	X	Deb Sniadajewski	X	
Town of Stockton	Mike Bronk		Jeanne Dodge		

North Central Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission Staff Present: Darryl Landeau

Others Present:

Staff Present: Tim Reed, Kristen Johnson, and Amy Heins, Portage County Planning and Zoning Department

1. Call to Order

Landeau called the meeting of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory (SSA) Committee to order at 2:05 pm in Conference Room 5 of the County Annex.

2. Members of the Public Who Wish to Address the Committee on Specific Agenda Items Must Register Their Request at this Time, with Such Comments Subject to the Reasonable Control of the Committee Chair as Set Forth in Robert's Rules of Order

No members of the public were present.

3. Introductions

Those present (see chart above) introduced themselves, noting the municipality they represent and position within that municipality.

4. Nomination and Election of Officers

Landeau asked for nominations for SSA Committee Chair:

- Sniadajewski nominated Kunst.

Hearing no further nominations, Landeau called for a motion. Sniadajewski moved to elect Kunst as Chair; seconded by Wilz. Motion passed by voice vote.

Kunst asked for nominations for SSA Committee Vice-Chair:

- Kunst nominated Lemke.

Hearing no further nominations, Kunst called for a motion. Kunst moved to elect Lemke as Vice-Chair; seconded by Wilz. Motion passed by voice vote.

5. Review/Approval of Minutes from January 21, 2022

Kernosky referenced item #7, second paragraph, and stated the director and municipalities were mixed up and it should read "Kernosky stated the focus of the City of Stevens Point will be infill of higher density redevelopment, i.e.: downtown area. There is a challenge with annexation and sewer/water, and they are working with the Town of Hull." Kunst replied that is how he remembered it as well.

Lemke moved to approve as amended. Motion was seconded by Menzel; which passed by voice vote.

6. Review of Advisory Committee Vote Allocation within Bylaws

Kunst noted for the record that the Bylaws have been reviewed and stand as is.

7. Discuss Planning Area Population and Growth Projections

Kunst stated the DNR requires the use of DOA numbers, and they are not consistent over 40 years which causes challenges with population projections for the Village of Plover. Kunst asked to follow up with the DOA just to verify and see if they would be willing to look at other methods if necessary. Landeau stated there are tricks/solutions like adding acreage for a buffer. Kernosky noted that the County's population from 2010 to 2020 was quite stagnant, very small increase, and it is not worth arguing since the DNR/DOA requires the use of their numbers. Landeau replied that is correct, Marshfield tried, and it did not get them anywhere.

Lemke asked for an explanation of market factor. Landeau replied this accounts for a buffer to allow for market trends and choices. Owners may not be willing to offer up land for sewer service development/growth and this provides a buffer of additional land to allow for that market variability. Lemke asked who comes up with the market factor acreage. Landeau replied the community does, and the DNR approves the factor by 1, 2, and occasionally 3.

Kunst stated that Town of Plover has commercial land served by Village of Plover sewer and asked if this needs to be addressed in the plan. Landeau replied he would look into and work it into the plan.

Kernosky asked if the market factor area should be reduced so that the SSA Committee would have to review proposed sewer developments on the fringe? Landeau replied most communities make the boundaries larger to prevent that issue. Kunst stated he wanted to continue as is otherwise it unnecessarily instills a group of this caliber to politicize development projects. The goal is to let the community run themselves. Kernosky disagreed and stated realistically we are not going to get anywhere near some of these boundaries by 2042 and suggested tightening it up. Landeau reminded the Committee that the goal of this plan is to protect the water quality by preventing development in environmentally sensitive areas. Kernosky stated the 2007 map does not reflect that, most of the City's wellhead protection areas are in the Town of Hull and there is limited Town of Hull land included in this sewer service plan. Landeau agreed and stated he would be looking into it. This is required by the Clean Water Act and the DNR is implementing it.

Landeau asked members to review the draft map for inaccuracies (developed versus not developed). Lemke asked if there was room for a designation for undevelopable land. Landeau replied yes, just let him know the specific areas.

Sniadajewski stated much of the property south on Highway 54 is marked developed, but it is agricultural farm fields and perhaps it was marked developed due to improvements to irrigation systems. Landeau replied that is very possible and the type of mistake that needs to be identified.

8. Review Environmentally Sensitive Area Designations

Reviewed maps. Lemke questioned park land and the addition of lodges/pavilions. Landeau replied that should already be included as development; therefore, it would not impact the future development allocation.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next SSA Committee meeting date is tentatively set for May 17, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in conference room 5.

10. Adjournment

Wilz moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Lemke. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Heins  
Recording Secretary

# STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, June 7, 2022 – 2:00 p.m.**  
Conference Room 5, County Annex Third Floor  
1462 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, WI

## AGENDA

### REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone: dial 1-608-338-1399, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 697 542 601, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Due to COVID-19 and the potential risk to members of the public who attend meetings in-person, any person who plans to attend the meeting remotely, but wishes to comment on an agenda item can send their comments via email to reedt@co.portage.wi.us. The deadline for sending comments by email is 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Emailed comments will be delivered to committee members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Remote comment by the public during the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair.

1. Call to Order / Attendance
2. PUBLIC NOTICE: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their requests at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order
3. Review/Approval of Minutes from March 29, 2022
4. Review Revised Draft Boundary Maps
5. Discuss Development of Proposed Sewer Service Area Boundary
6. Review SSA Goals, Objectives, and Policies
7. Next Meeting Date
8. Adjournment

**NOTICE:** *A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors  
or any committee thereof may be present at this meeting.*

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Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting should contact the Planning and Zoning Department as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made. Telephone 715-346-1334.

MINUTES  
Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee  
June 7, 2022

Municipality	Primary Member	Present	Alternate Member	Present	Technical Staff / Others Present
City of Stevens Point	Mike Wiza		Joel Lemke	X	Ryan Kernosky
Village of Park Ridge	Steve Menzel	X	Paul McGinley		
Village of Plover	Steve Kunst	X	Dan Ault		
Village of Whiting	Kevin Lutz		Jake Wilcox	X	
Town of Hull	Dave Wilz	X	Jan Way	X	
Town of Linwood	Howard Krieski		<b>Vacant</b>		
Town of Plover	Jim Garbe	X	Deb Sniadajewski	X	
Town of Stockton	Mike Bronk		Jeanne Dodge	X	

North Central Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission Staff Present: Darryl Landeau  
Others Present: Nathan Sandwick  
Staff Present: Tim Reed, Kristen Johnson, and Amy Heins, Portage County Planning and Zoning Department

1. Call to Order

Kunst called the meeting of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory (SSA) Committee to order at 2:01 pm in Conference Room 5 of the County Annex.

2. Members of the Public Who Wish to Address the Committee on Specific Agenda Items Must Register Their Request at this Time, with Such Comments Subject to the Reasonable Control of the Committee Chair as Set Forth in Robert's Rules of Order

No members of the public were present.

3. Review/Approval of Minutes from March 29, 2022

Garbe moved to approve as presented. Motion was seconded by Way, which passed by voice vote.

4. Review Revised Draft Boundary Maps

Maps were reviewed with no discussion.

5. Discuss Development of Proposed Sewer Service Area Boundary

Landeau stated he will be working with the City of Stevens Point and the Village of Plover for their final acreage allocations.

6. Review SSA Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Reviewed with no discussion.

7. Next Meeting Date

The next SSA Committee meeting date is tentatively set for August 30, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in conference room 5.

8. Adjournment

Lemke moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Menzel. Meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Heins  
Recording Secretary

**STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, September 6, 2022 – 2:00 p.m.**  
Conference Room 5, County Annex Third Floor  
1462 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, WI

**AGENDA**

**REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT**

To attend this meeting by telephone: dial 1-608-338-1399, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 687 996 971, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Due to COVID-19 and the potential risk to members of the public who attend meetings in-person, any person who plans to attend the meeting remotely, but wishes to comment on an agenda item can send their comments via email to reedt@co.portage.wi.us. The deadline for sending comments by email is 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Emailed comments will be delivered to committee members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Remote comment by the public during the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair.

1. Call to Order / Attendance
2. PUBLIC NOTICE: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their requests at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert’s Rules of Order
3. Review/Approval of Minutes from June 7, 2022
4. Review Plan Implementation and Administrative Procedures
5. Discuss Development of Proposed Sewer Service Area Boundary Map
6. Next Meeting Date
7. Adjournment

**NOTICE:** *A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors or any committee thereof may be present at this meeting.*

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Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting should contact the Planning and Zoning Department as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made. Telephone 715-346-1334.



MINUTES  
Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory Committee  
September 6, 2022

Municipality	Primary Member	Present	Alternate Member	Present	Technical Staff / Others Present
City of Stevens Point	Mike Wiza		Joel Lemke	X	Ryan Kernosky
Village of Park Ridge	Steve Menzel	X	Paul McGinley		
Village of Plover	Steve Kunst	X	Dan Ault		
Village of Whiting	Kevin Lutz		Jake Wilcox	X	
Town of Hull	Dave Wilz	X	Jan Way		
Town of Linwood	Howard Krieski		<b>Vacant</b>		
Town of Plover	Jim Garbe	X	Deb Sniadajewski	X	
Town of Stockton	Mike Bronk		Jeanne Dodge	X	

North Central Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission Staff Present: Darryl Landeau  
Staff Present: Tim Reed, Kristen Johnson, and Amy Heins, Portage County Planning and Zoning Department

1. Call to Order

Kunst called the meeting of the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Advisory (SSA) Committee to order at 2:02 pm in Conference Room 5 of the County Annex.

2. Members of the Public Who Wish to Address the Committee on Specific Agenda Items Must Register Their Request at this Time, with Such Comments Subject to the Reasonable Control of the Committee Chair as Set Forth in Robert's Rules of Order

No members of the public were present.

3. Review/Approval of Minutes from June 7, 2022

Wilz moved to approve as presented. Motion was seconded by Garbe, which passed by voice vote.

4. Review Plan Implementation and Administrative Procedures

- Review/Update "Request Form"
- Add appeal process verbiage
- Clarify Flow Chart to "notify Sewer Service Advisory Committee members"

Proposed draft to be brought to the next meeting, once approved, send draft to municipalities for review/approval (allowing 3 months), bring back in February or March for a required Public Hearing and action, and then forward to the DNR for final approval.

5. Discuss Development of Proposed Sewer Service Area Boundary Map

This item will be brought to the next meeting.

6. Next Meeting Date

The next SSA Committee meeting date is tentatively set for November 1, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. in conference room 5.

7. Adjournment

Lemke moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Wilz. Meeting adjourned at 2:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Heins  
Recording Secretary

# STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 – 2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 5, County Annex Third Floor  
1462 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, WI

## AGENDA

### REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone: dial 1-608-338-1399, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 870 336 682, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Due to COVID-19 and the potential risk to members of the public who attend meetings in-person, any person who plans to attend the meeting remotely, but wishes to comment on an agenda item can send their comments via email to reedt@co.portage.wi.us. The deadline for sending comments by email is 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Emailed comments will be delivered to committee members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Remote comment by the public during the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair.

1. Call to Order / Attendance
2. PUBLIC NOTICE: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their requests at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order
3. Review and Approve Minutes from September 6, 2022
4. Review Revised Draft Boundary Maps
5. Review and Approve Draft Sewer Service Area Document
6. Discuss Plan Adoption Process
7. Next Meeting Date
8. Adjournment

**NOTICE:** *A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors  
or any committee thereof may be present at this meeting.*

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Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting should contact the Planning and Zoning Department as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made. Telephone 715-346-1334.

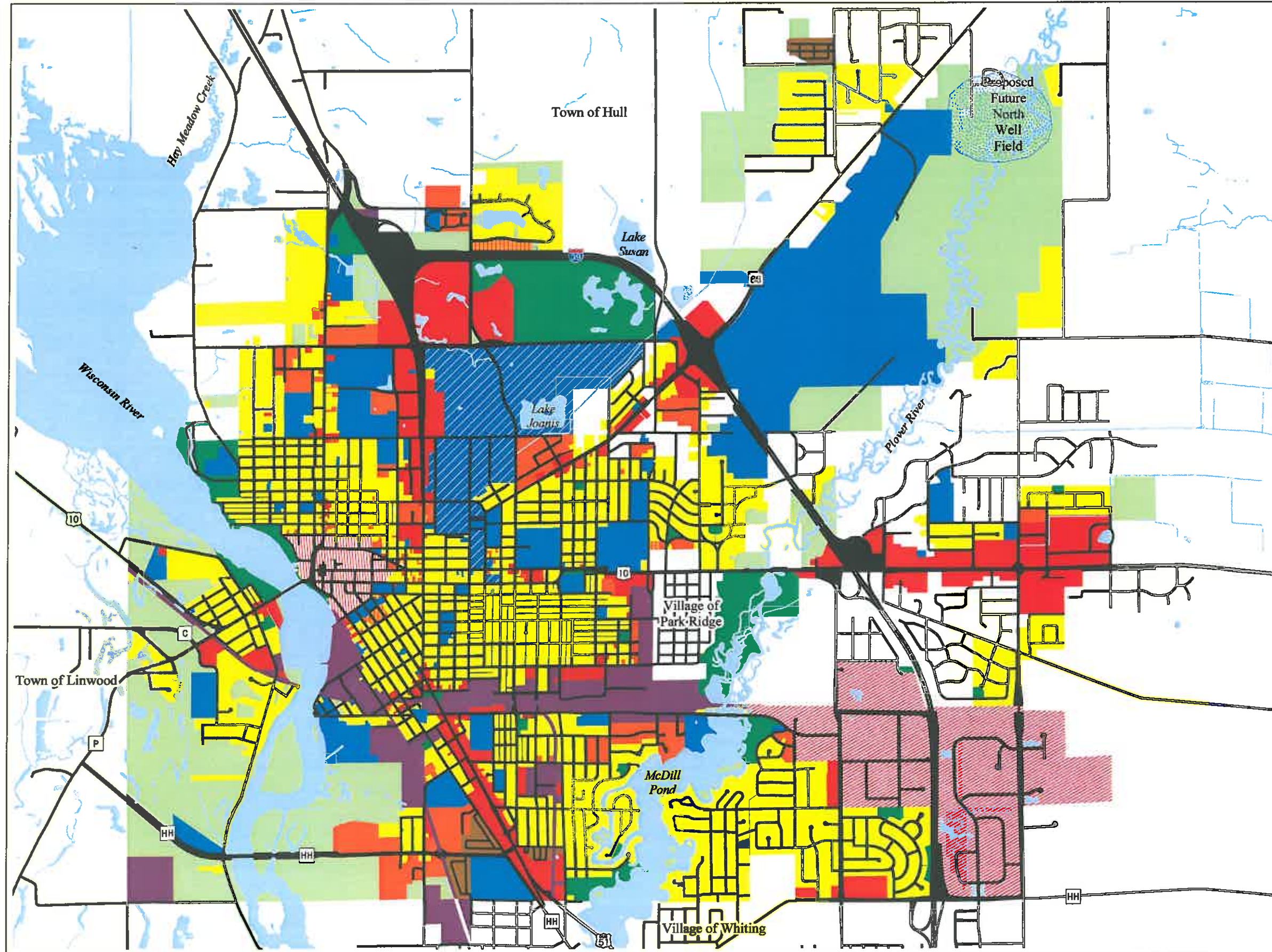
APPENDIX C  
STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN

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*Area Future Land Use Maps*

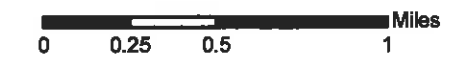


# Map 8.3 Future Land Use Update



### Future Land Use

- Residential
- Multi-family (3+ units)
- Mobile Home Park
- Commercial / Office / Multi-family
- Professional Office / Multi-family
- Downtown District
- Business Park District
- Institutional / Government
- UWSP
- Industry
- Park
- Not Developable / Restrictive Ownership
- Vacant
- Road Right-of-Way
- Water Bodies



Source: City of Stevens Point (2005)  
Portage County Planning & Zoning (2005)

Adopted: June 19, 2006

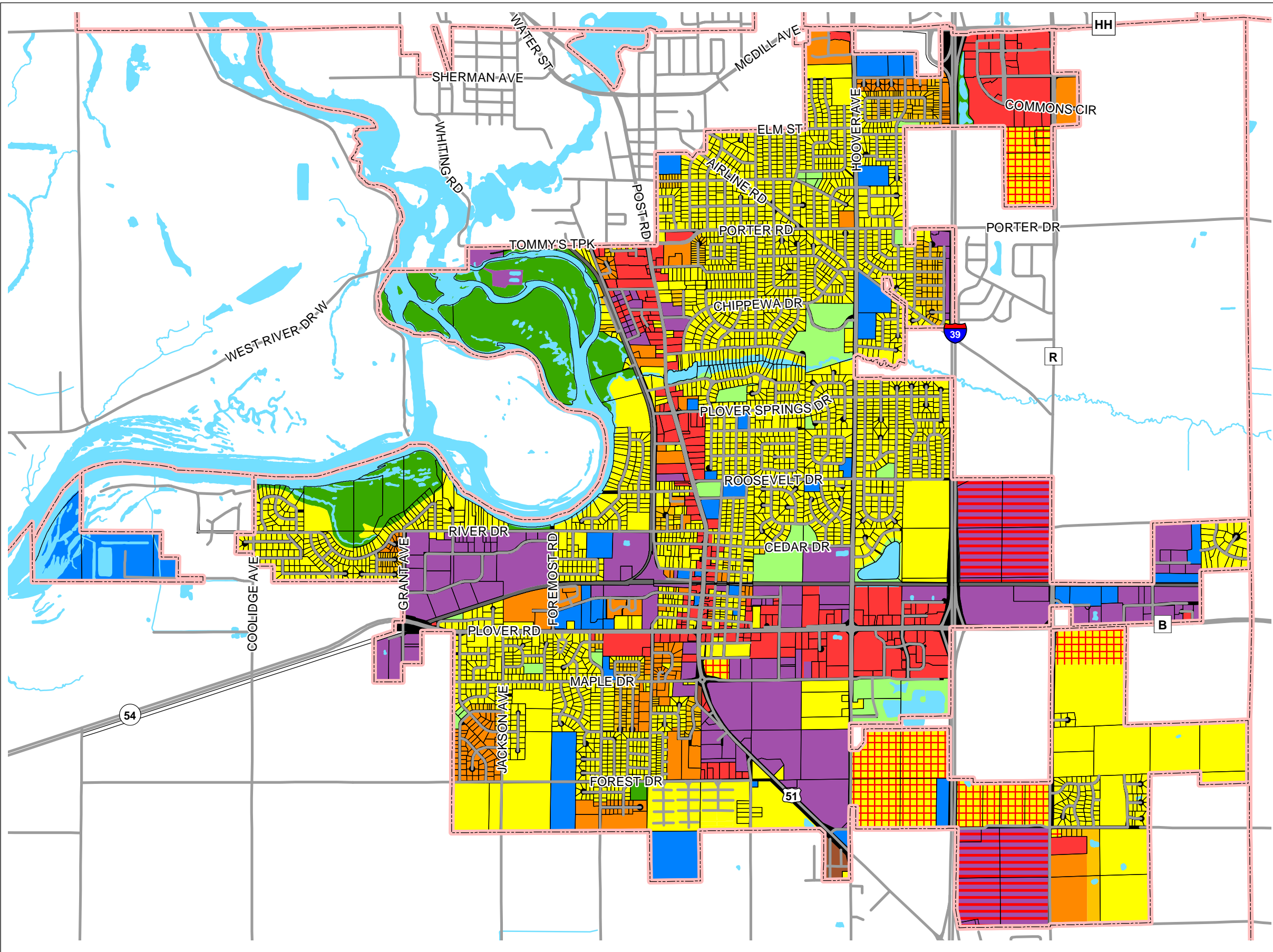
## City of Stevens Point Comprehensive Plan



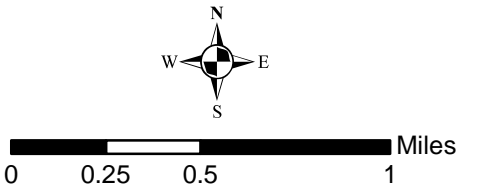
Portage County  
Planning & Zoning  
1462 Strongs Ave.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481



# Map 8.3 Future Land Use Within 2018 Village Boundary



- Land Use Classes**
- Single Family
  - Duplex
  - Multi-family (3+ units)
  - Mobile Home Park
  - Commercial / Office
  - Commercial/Industrial
  - Commercial/Residential
  - Institutional / Governmental
  - Industry
  - Agriculture
  - Park
  - Not Developable
  - Railroad
  - Road Right-of-Way
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Lakes and Streams



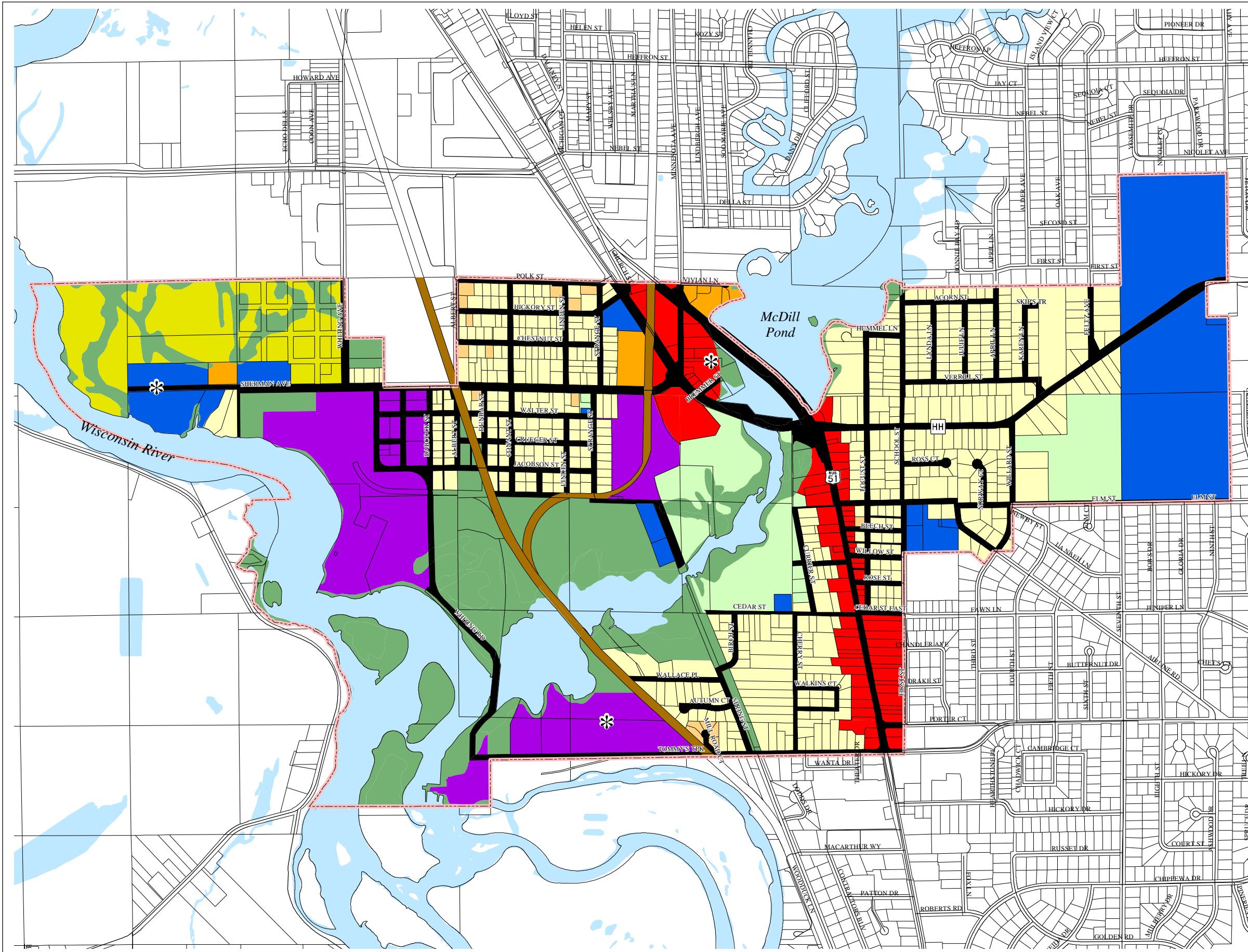
Source: Portage County Planning & Zoning (2018)  
Village of Plover (2018)  
Map Printed: October 24, 2018

## Village of Plover Comprehensive Plan

Portage County  
Planning & Zoning  
1462 Strongs Ave.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

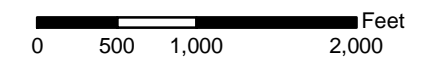


# Map 8.3 Future Land Use



- Land Use**
- Single Family
  - Residential Planned Development
  - Duplex
  - Multi-family (3+ Units)
  - Commercial
  - Government / Institutional
  - Industrial
  - Park
  - Natural Areas / Open Space
  - Road Right-of-Way
  - Railroad Right-of-Way
  - Water

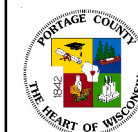
\* Please refer to Map 8.2 and Section 8.2(E) for discussion of these infill/redevelopment areas.



Source: Portage County Planning & Zoning (2004)

Map Adopted: October 12, 2004

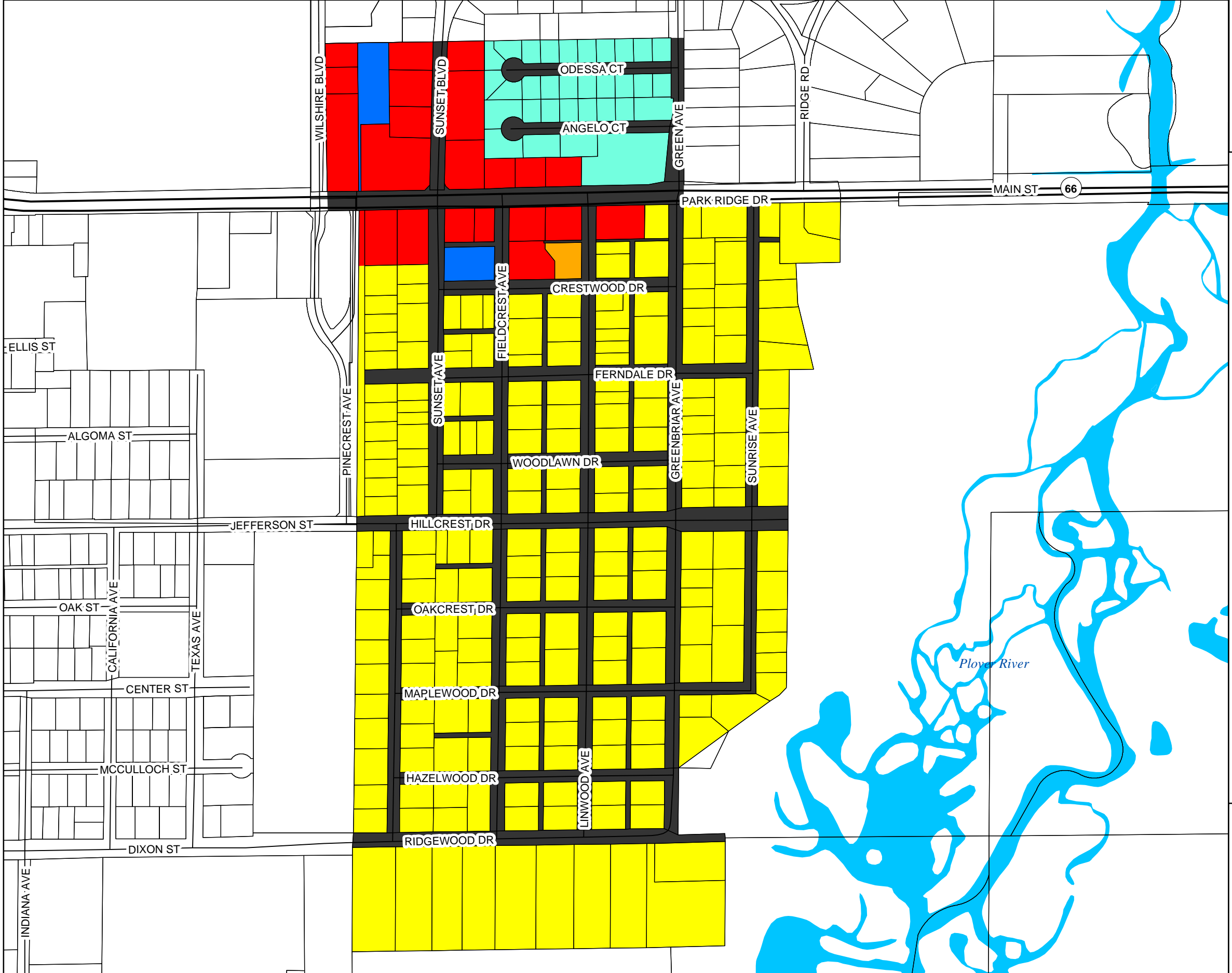
## Village of Whiting Comprehensive Plan



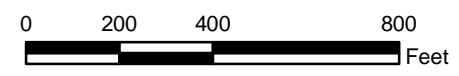
Portage County  
Planning & Zoning  
1462 Strongs Ave.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481



# Map 8.2 Future Land Use



- Future Land Use**
- Single Family
  - Plex (2-5 Units)
  - Governmental/Institutional
  - Commercial/Office
  - Planned Unit Development
  - Road Right-of-Way



Source: Village of Park Ridge (2021)  
Portage County Planning & Zoning (2021)

Map Produced: September, 2021

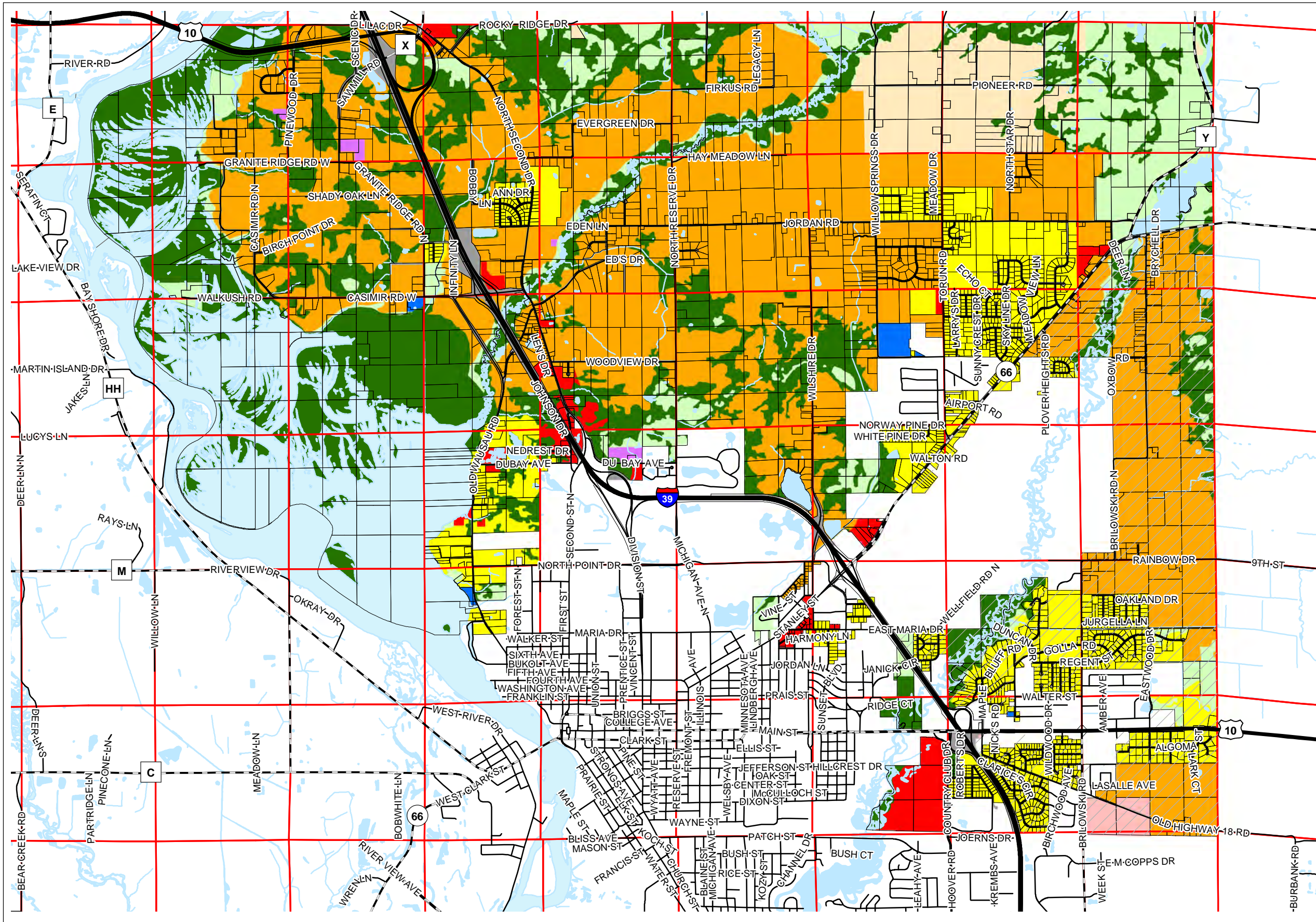
## Village of Park Ridge Comprehensive Plan



Portage County  
Planning & Zoning  
1462 Strongs Ave.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481



# Map 8.4 Future Land Use



- Future Land Use**
- Residential
  - Rural Residential
  - Commercial
  - Commercial / Mixed Use
  - L3 Limited Agriculture/Mixed Use
  - Industrial
  - Institutional
  - Natural Areas - Limited
  - Natural Areas - Protected
  - Road Right-of-Way

Urban Expansion Discussion Area



Miles  
0 0.25 0.5 1

Source: Portage County Planning & Zoning (2016)

Town Board Adopted: May 1, 2006  
Town Board Amended: June 6, 2016  
Map Printed: January 18, 2018

## Town of Hull Comprehensive Plan



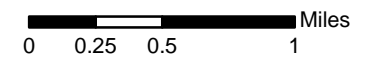
Portage County  
Planning & Zoning  
1462 Strongs Ave.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481



# Future Land Use

## Land Use

- Residential
- Commercial
- Institutional
- Industrial
- L3 Limited Ag/Mixed Use
- Natural Areas - Protected
- Road



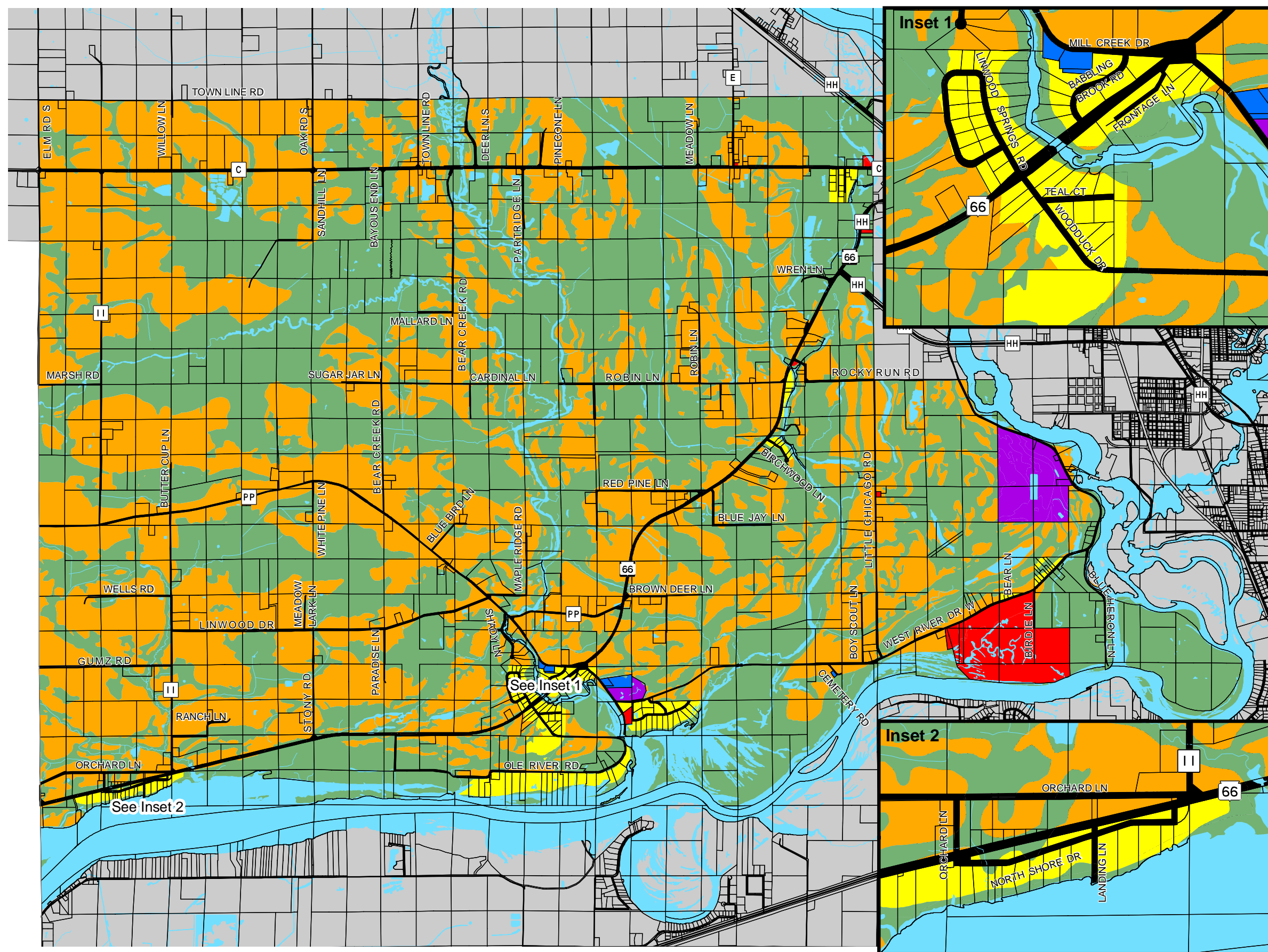
Source: Portage County Planning & Zoning (2009)

Map Printed: November 23, 2009

## Town of Linwood Comprehensive Plan



Portage County  
Planning & Zoning  
1462 Strongs Ave.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481





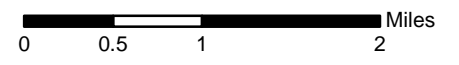
# Map 8.2 Future Land Use

## Future Land Use

- Low Density Residential
- Medium Density Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- L1 Enterprise Agriculture
- L2 Intermediate Agriculture
- L3 Limited Agriculture/Mixed Use
- Governmental/Institutional
- Planned Unit Development
- Natural Areas - Protected
- Natural Areas - Limited
- Road Right-of-Way

\* Natural Areas-Protected include: DNR lands, Wetlands outside of the Drainage District, County Parks, Tomorrow River State Trail, School Forest, and the Floodway of the Wisconsin River.

- Drainage District Boundary
- Extraterritorial Boundaries



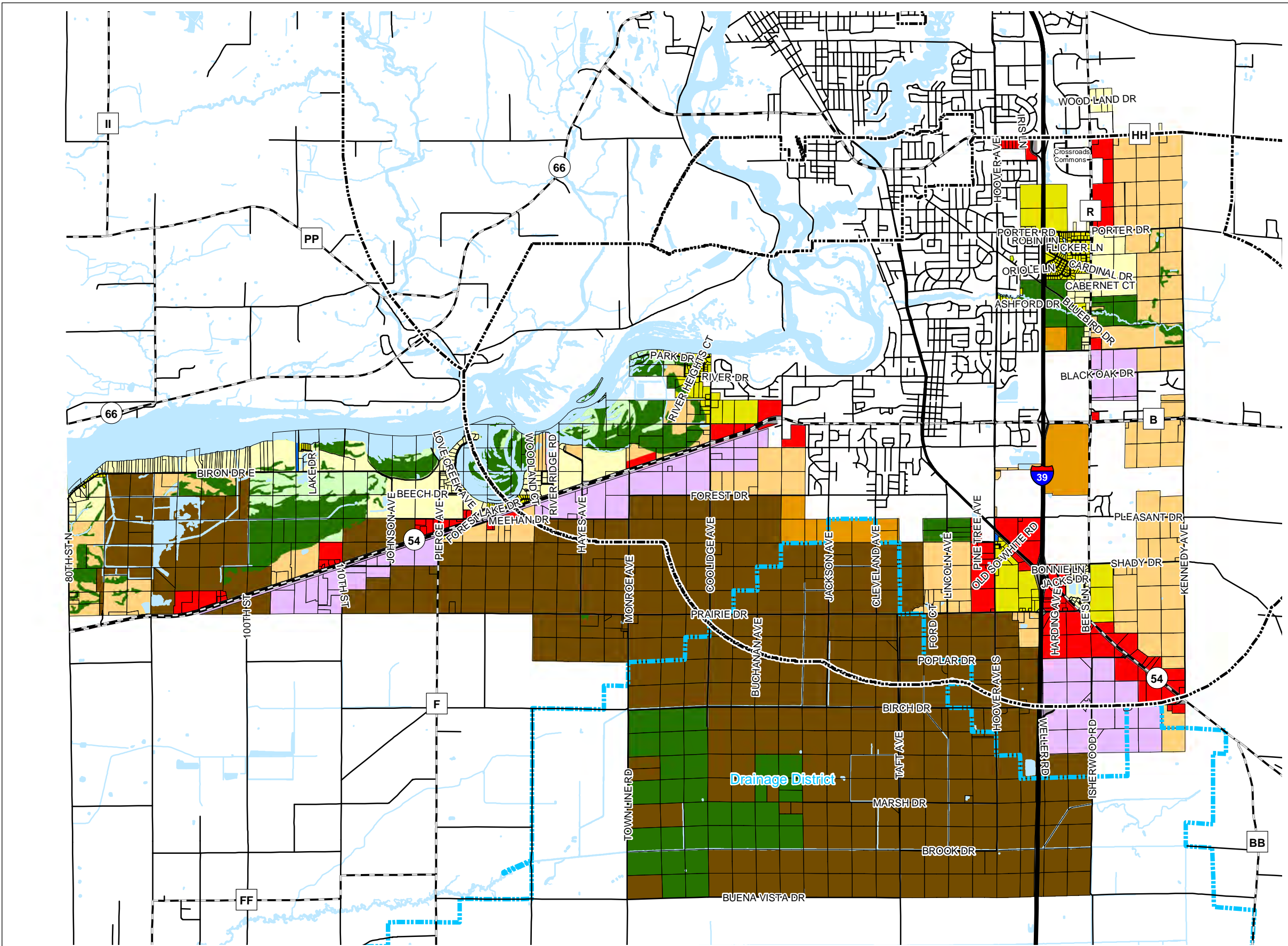
Source: Town of Plover (2021)  
Portage County Planning & Zoning (2021)

Town Board Adopted: February 11, 2021  
Town Board Amended: July 7, 2021  
Map Printed: September 28, 2021

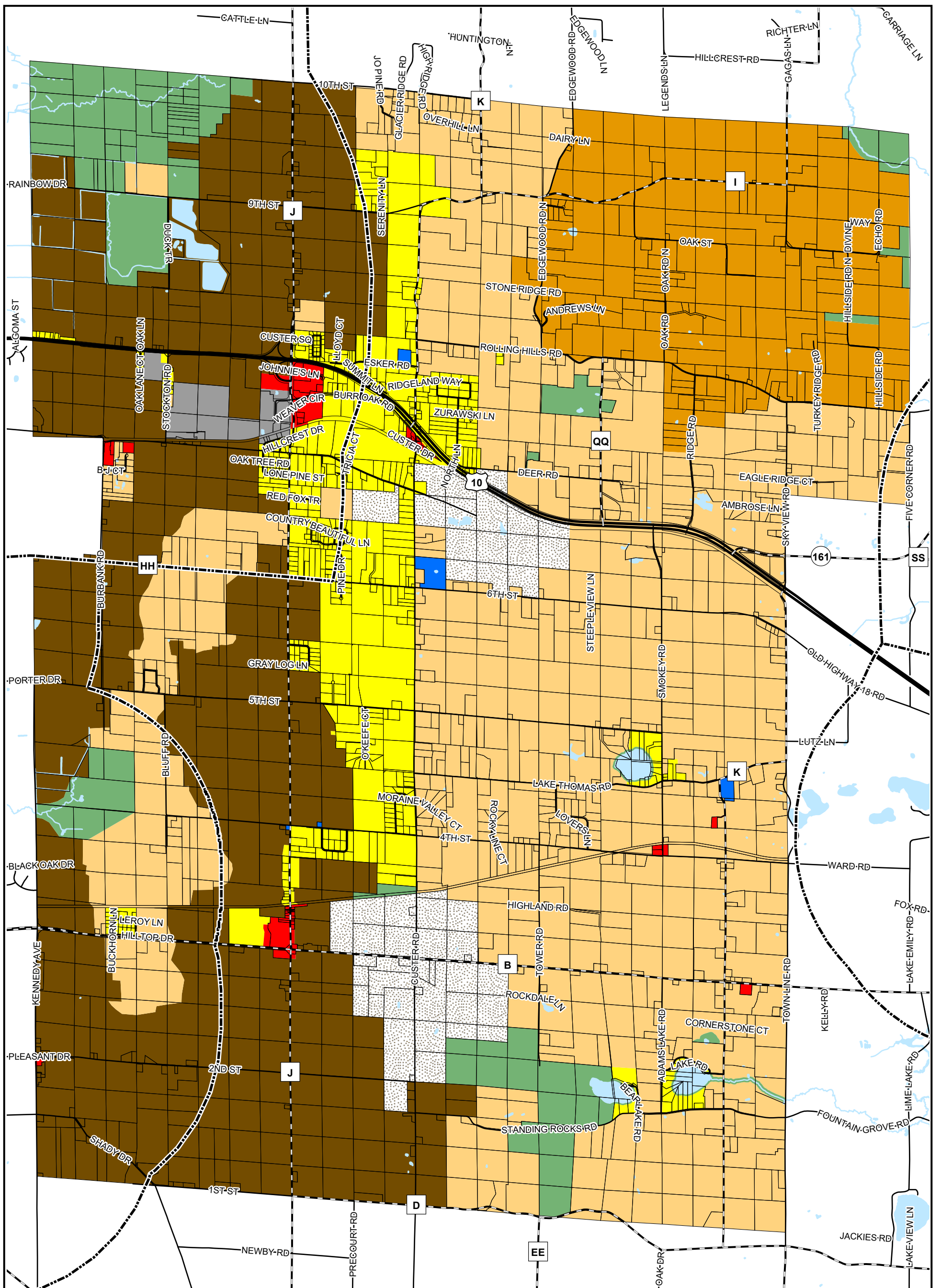
## Town of Plover Comprehensive Plan



Portage County  
Planning & Zoning  
1462 Strongs Ave.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481



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Map 8.3  
Future Land Use

- Future Land Use**
- Residential
  - Commercial
  - Institutional
  - Industrial
  - L1 Enterprise Agriculture
  - L2 Intermediate Agriculture
  - L3 Limited Agriculture/Mixed Use
  - Gravel Pit
  - Natural Areas
  - Extraterritorial Boundaries



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Source: Portage County Planning & Zoning (2022)  
Town of Stockton (2022)

Town Board Adopted: September 13, 2016  
Town Board Amended: April 11, 2022  
Map Printed: September 20, 2022

## Town of Stockton Comprehensive Plan



Portage County  
Planning & Zoning  
1462 Strongs Ave.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

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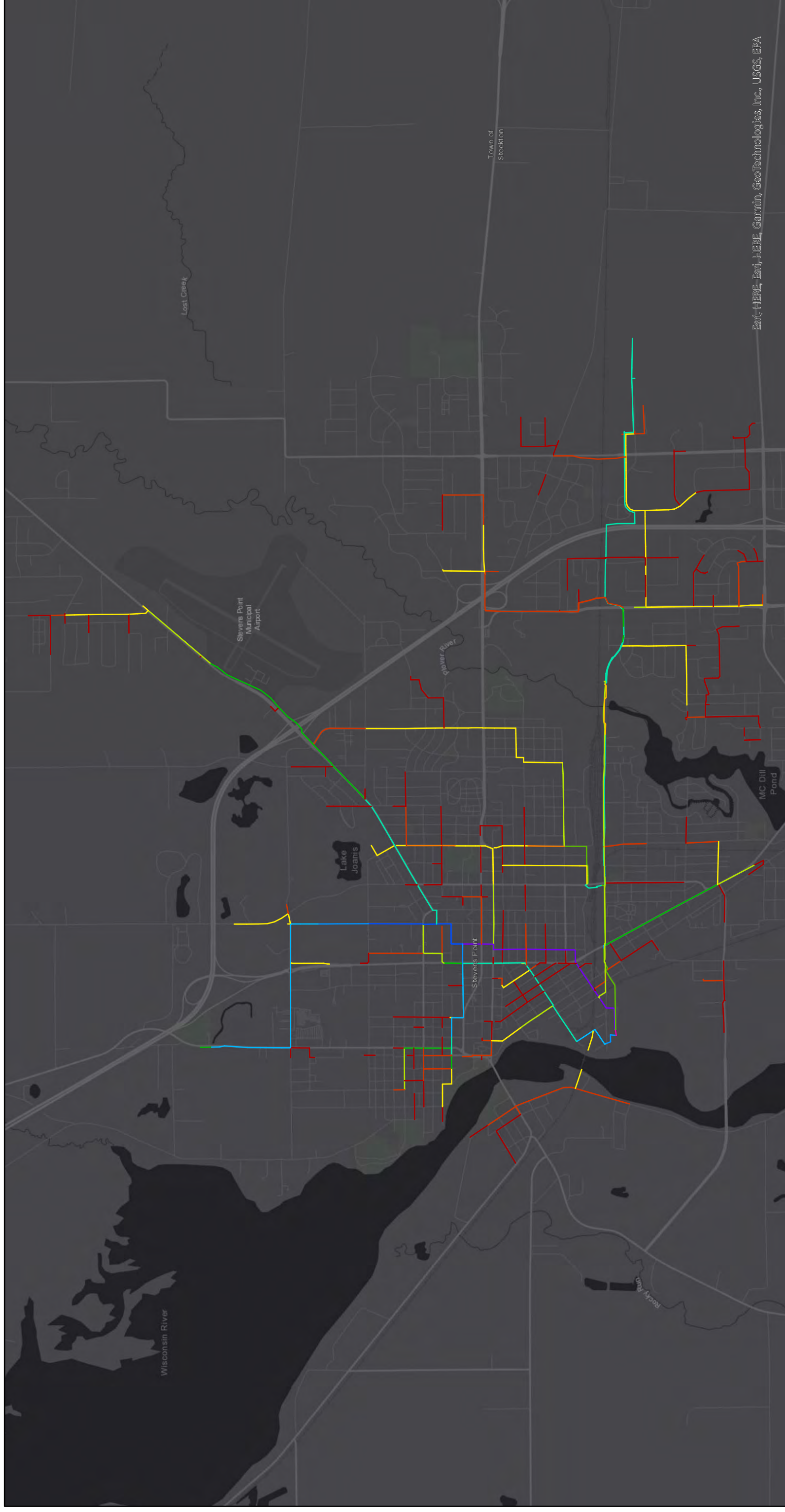
APPENDIX D  
STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN

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*Community Sewer System Maps*



# Stevens Point Sanitary Mains



## Sanitary Mains

10"  
12"  
12.18

14"  
15"  
18"  
18.27

21"  
24"  
30"  
36"

42"  
48"  
54"

0 0.5 1 Miles

Esri, HERE, Esri, HERE, Garmin, GeoTechnologies, Inc., USGS, EPA

# Sanitary - Collector

## Sanitary: Mains

10

12

36

15

18

30

21

33

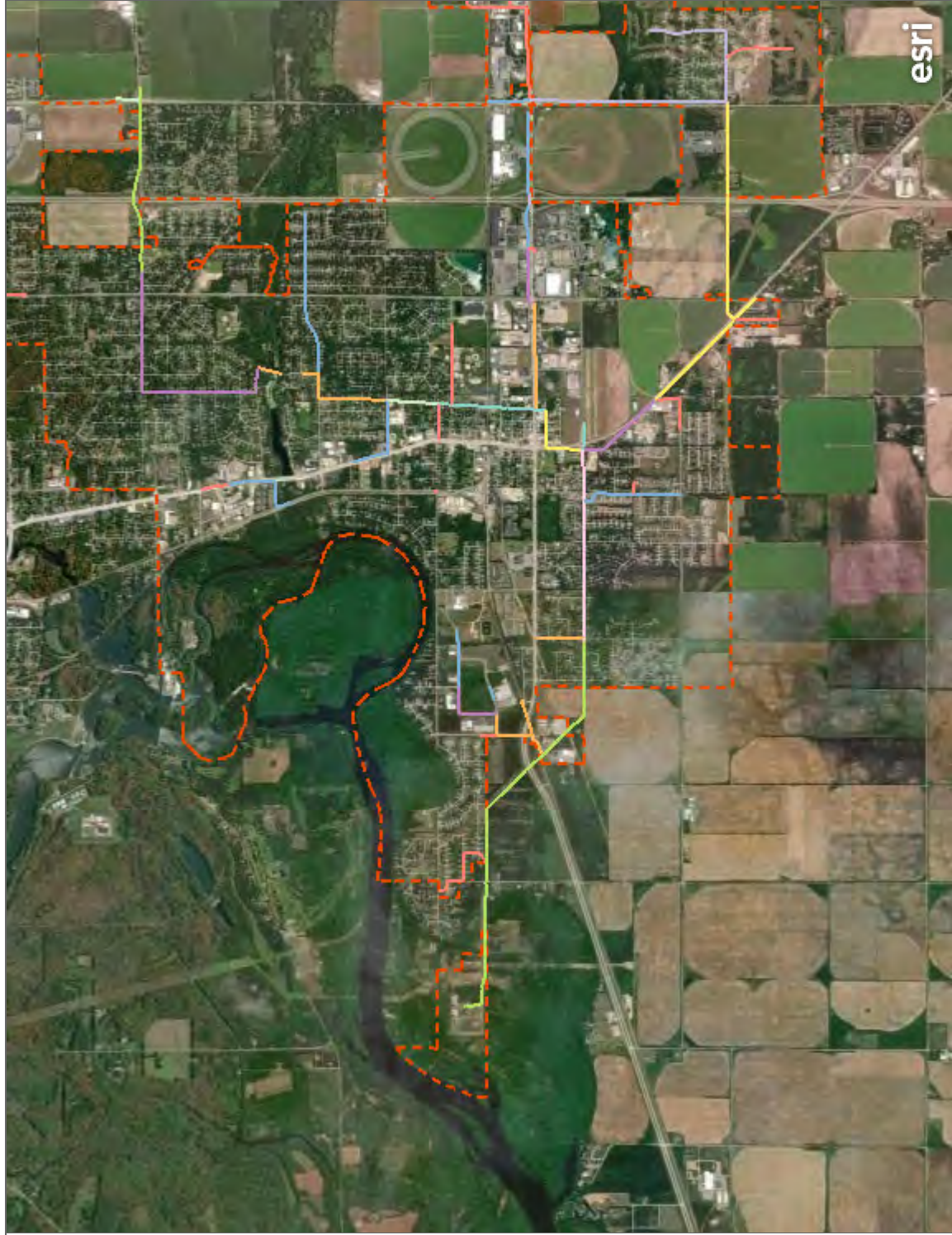
27

24

Other

## Plover Village Limits

- - -



1mi

Earthstar Geographics



350 Acres not served by gravity

Rim -1100

Rim -1103  
10" INV 1098.74; D=4.26  
12" INV 1097.48 D=5.52

Rim -1110  
10" INV 1095.38; D=14  
12" INV 1094.84 D=15

Rim -1114  
INV 1103.05; D=10.95

Rim ~ 1107  
Inv = 1092.02; D=14.98  
GW 18 ft

Rim ~1104  
Inv = 1090.87; D=13.13  
GW D=18 ft

18 inch San Sewer

Rim ~1100  
INV 1086.32 @0.10 %  
D=13.68 ft  
GW ~1085.00

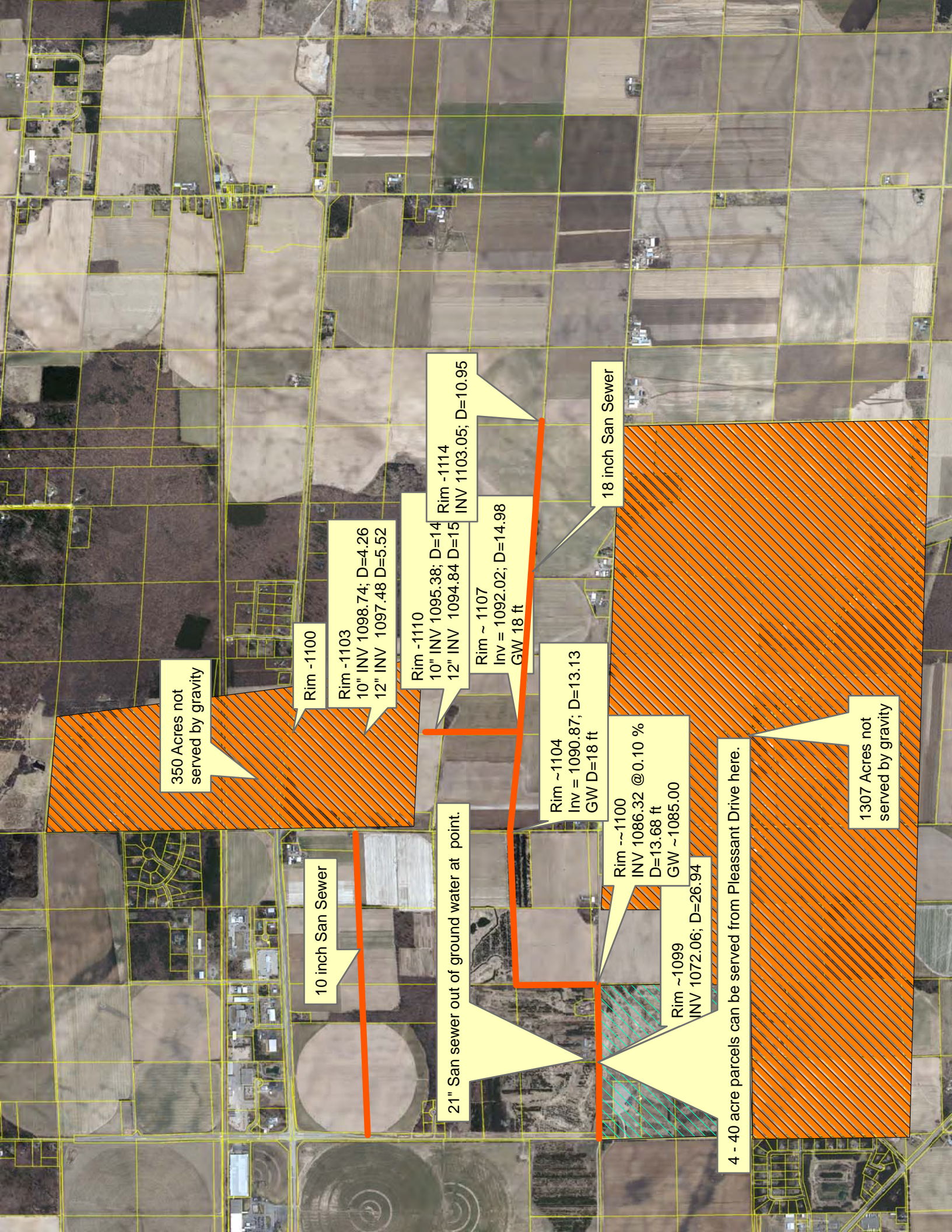
Rim ~1099  
INV 1072.06; D=26.94

4 - 40 acre parcels can be served from Pleasant Drive here.

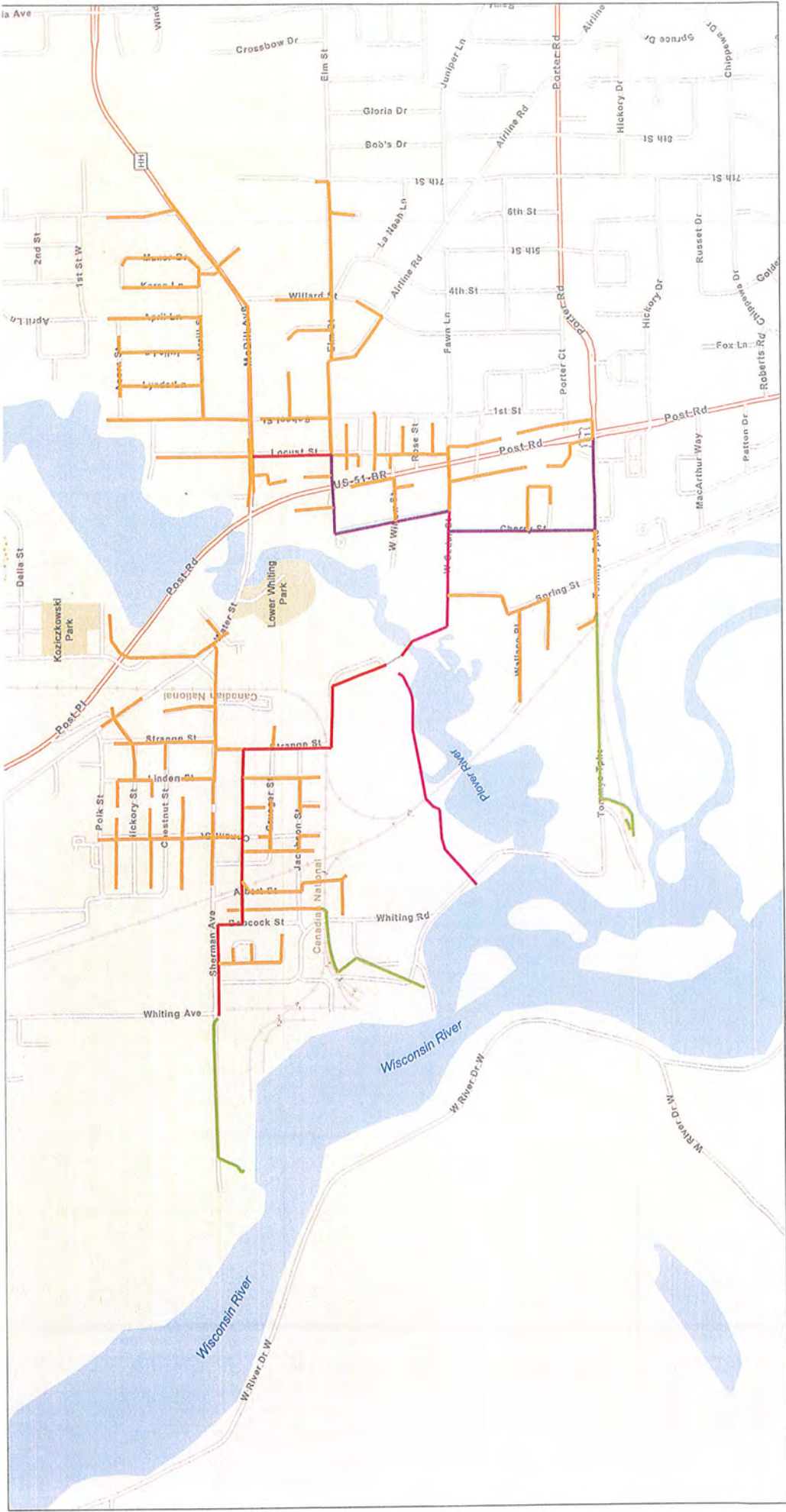
1307 Acres not served by gravity

10 inch San Sewer

21" San sewer out of ground water at point.



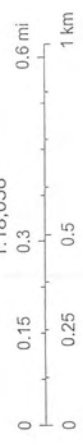




4/19/2023, 12:51:07 PM

- Sanitary: Mains 8
- 6
- 10
- 12
- 18

1:18,056

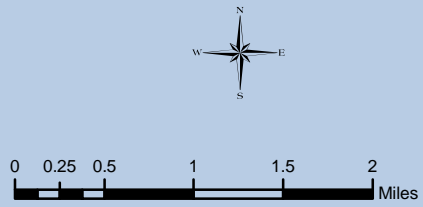
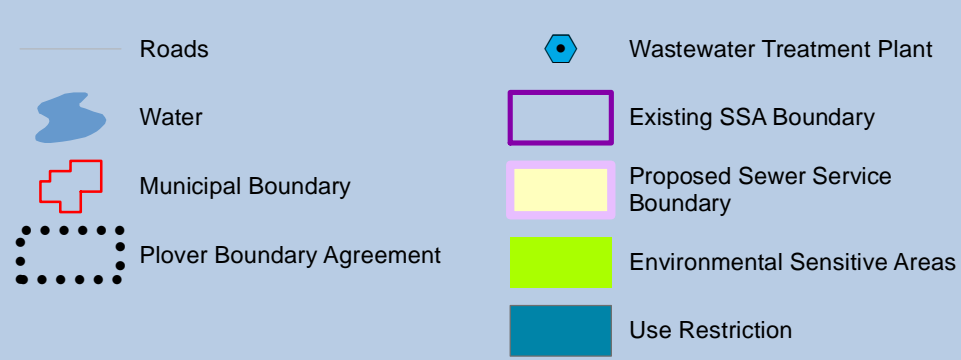
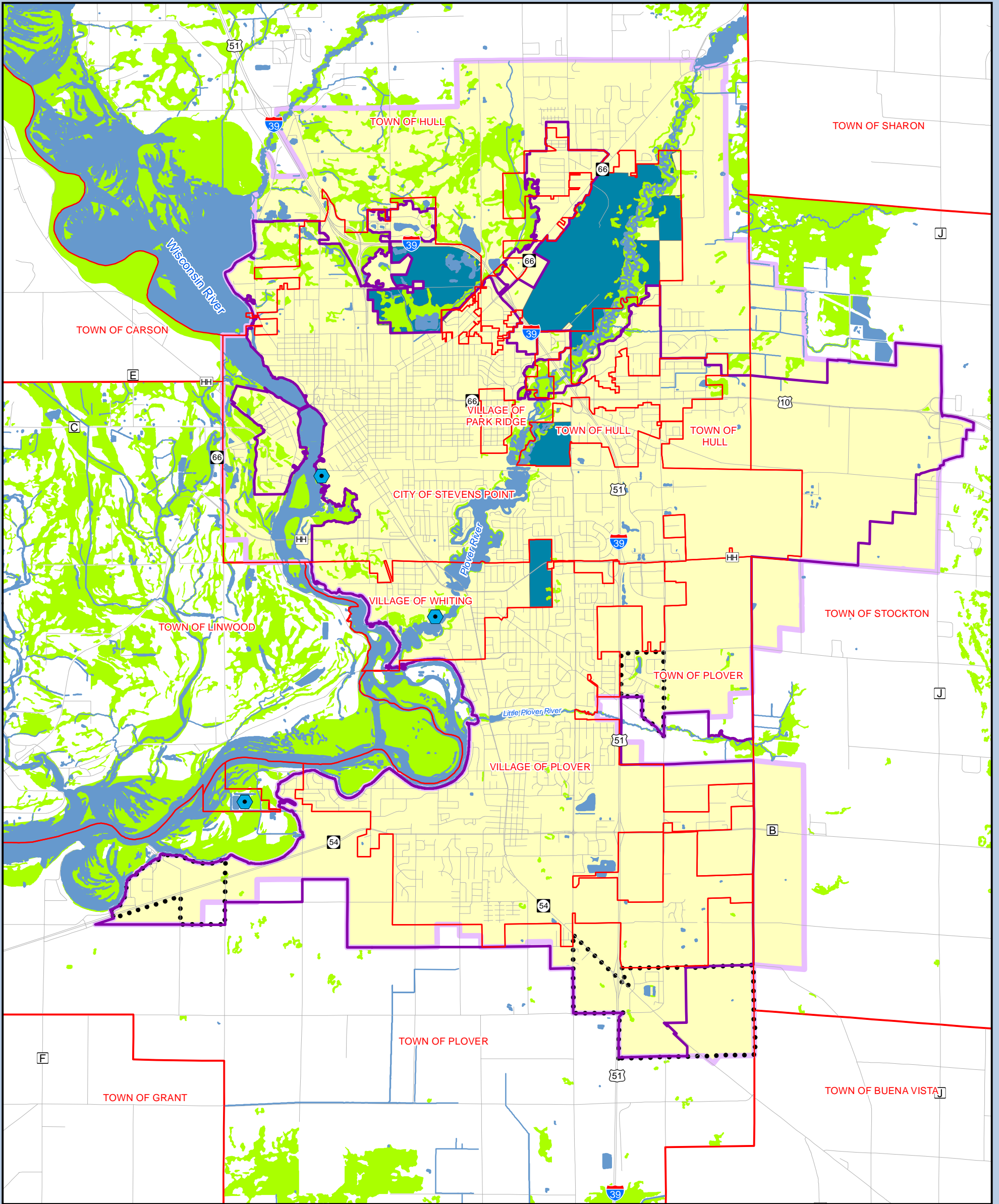


Esri Community Maps Contributors, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METINASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA

APPENDIX E  
STEVENS POINT URBAN AREA SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN

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*Previous Sewer Service Area Boundary*



This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only. NCRPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.

Prepared by:  
**North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission**  
 210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403  
 (715) 849-5510 www.ncwrpc.org