

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
DECEMBER 2014**

Section 1: Introduction

In fall 2014, Marquette County began the process of preparing an update to both the 2005 Marquette County Comprehensive Plan and the 1982 Marquette County Farmland Preservation Plan, in compliance with Wisconsin's comprehensive planning and farmland preservation statutes. The two plans will be within an updated version of the Marquette County Comprehensive Plan. A key component of updating the Comprehensive Plan is actively involving community stakeholders.

Section 2: Purpose

Per Section 66.1001(4)(a), Wisconsin Statutes, the purpose of this Public Participation Plan is to outline the procedures to be used in the Plan update process to foster public participation, including open discussion, communication and information sharing, and public meetings. There should be opportunities for public participation at every stage of the Plan update process. Through execution of this Public Participation Plan, the County intends to actively involve community interests in identifying and responding to major issues, farmland preservation and other Plan priorities and approaches, the draft Plan document.

Section 3: Policy Guidelines for Public Participation

To foster public participation in the Plan update process, the County will use the following guidelines:

- a. All public meetings will be publicized in advance and open to the public.
- b. All materials produced during the Plan update process will be available for inspection at the Marquette County Zoning Department office upon request.
- c. With consultant assistance, County staff will prepare and disseminate information to the public on the planning and participation efforts.
- d. Updates on the planning efforts and encouragement of public participation in the Plan update creation will be enhanced through the use of the internet. See the County's web site: www.co.marquette.wi.us.
- e. Notice on the County's Web site, press releases, and invitations to key stakeholders will announce upcoming meetings and activities associated with the Plan update.
- f. The public and local officials will be encouraged to provide written comments regarding the Plan update at any time during the process. The email and U.S. Mail addresses for sending in written comments will be available at all planning meetings, in meeting notices, on the Marquette County Zoning Department page on the County website, in press releases, and at the Marquette County Zoning Department office.
- g. Public and local official comments will be solicited and responded to at every stage of Plan creation through techniques such as Planning and Zoning Committee meetings, Farmland Preservation Steering Committee meetings, local government quadrant meetings, and public hearings.
- h. All Committee meetings will be in a public setting over the course of the planning process, and will provide an opportunity for public comment at each meeting.

- i. The consultant will direct two sets of Town Quadrant Meetings during the course of the Plan update process to solicit Town official and general public advice and feedback. The consultant and County staff will prepare publicity materials to encourage broad local official and public input at those meetings, and carefully compile and review results.
- j. The County will include updates on the planning process at County Board meetings.
- k. A public hearing on the Plan update will be held to provide a final opportunity for public feedback prior to Plan update adoption. Following this public hearing, revisions will be made as necessary. A Class 1 hearing notice in the County's official newspaper of record will be published at least 30 days prior to the public hearing.
- l. The "meetings and major milestones" schedule for completion of the Plan update is included on the following pages. Specific dates and events are subject to change. More detailed and refined timelines, meeting schedules, and agendas will be provided on the County's web site when available.



**MARQUETTE COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN/ COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
UPDATE MEETINGS AND MAJOR MILESTONES (Revised: 11/3/2014)**

County Zoning and Mapping Staff Meeting #1: December 3, 2014

- Discuss mapping needs and conventions for project
- Review background materials and needs
- Review implementation table from 2005 plan to identify actions completed/still relevant
- Review materials for upcoming committee meetings

County Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting #1: December 3, 2014

- Discuss project, process, public participation plan (to be adopted by Board), committee roles
- Review 2005 County comprehensive plan, 1982 farmland preservation plan, and statutes
- Describe relationship to other recent County planning and zoning efforts
- Advise on preliminary plan goals for comprehensive plan update

Farmland Preservation Steering Committee #1: December 4, 2014

- Discuss project, process, and role of committee
- Establish land use and economic framework for farmland preservation
- Identify goals, priorities, and preliminary policies for farmland preservation

First Set of Local Government Quadrant Meetings: January 2015

- Discuss project and process
- Overview mid-2000s comprehensive plans, 1982 farmland preservation plan, and statutes
- Decide extent of local government interest in farmland preservation planning, updated future land use mapping, updates to local comprehensive plans, and options to local plan updates
- Provide direction for farmland preservation mapping and policies

Farmland Preservation Steering Committee #2: March 2015

- Review results of quadrant meetings
- Advise on “farmland preservation area” land use and mapping policies
- Review initial draft farmland preservation plan/Agricultural Resource chapter materials

County Land and Water Conservation Committee Meeting: April 2015

- Review draft Agricultural Resources and Natural and Cultural Resources comp plan chapters
- Discuss relationships to other efforts and plans of the committee and its staff

County Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting #2: May 2015

- Review draft Land Use and other chapters of comprehensive plan
- Discuss progress on comprehensive plan and farmland preservation plan update process

County Property Committee Meeting: May 2015

- Review draft Utilities and Community Facilities chapter of Comprehensive Plan
- Discuss relationships to other efforts and plans of the committee and its staff

County Highway Committee Meeting: June 2015

- Review draft Transportation chapter of Comprehensive Plan
- Discuss relationships to other efforts and plans of the committee and its staff

Tri-County Economic Development Corporation Meeting: June 2015

- Review draft Economic Development and Housing chapters of Comprehensive Plan
- Discuss relationships to other efforts and plans of the EDC

Second Set of Local Government Quadrant Meetings: June 2015

- Review draft farmland preservation and future land use maps and policies
- Present and obtain comments on draft chapters of County comprehensive plan update
- Review progress on local planning efforts

DATCP Staff Interaction on Farmland Preservation Plan Material: June-July 2015

- Provide draft farmland preservation plan document & maps for initial review
- Discuss any likely issues related to DATCP certification of plan

County Board Meeting #1: Summer 2015

- Provide update and next steps for comprehensive plan/farmland preservation plan process
- Present and obtain feedback on major pending policy directions for comprehensive plan update

Farmland Preservation Steering Committee #3: August 2015

- Recommend farmland preservation plan/Agricultural Resources chapter for approval

County Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting #3: August or early September 2015

- Recommend revised draft comp plan update/farmland preservation plan for DATCP certification

DATCP Plan Certification Process (up to 90 days per statute): September-November 2015

County Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting #4: November 2015

- Hold public hearing on DATCP-certified farmland preservation plan/comp plan update
- Recommend comp plan update (by resolution) for County Board approval

County Board Meeting #2: November or December 2015

- Adopt farmland preservation plan/comp plan update (by ordinance)