

4. Utilities and Community Facilities

4.1 Introduction

People and communities need a whole host of community-type facilities and services. Some of these services are needed to provide basic levels of health and safety, while others help to maintain a high quality of life, foster job creation, and create a sustainable economy.

Historically, the distinction between private-sector services and those provided by the public sector was quite clear. However, this distinction can be quite different from community to community and can shift within a community over time. With the trend of privatization, private-sector companies now offer some services that historically were provided by government. Likewise, some services typically thought of as private-sector ventures, are now in the realm of the public sector.

The provision of community-type services is a key element of this Plan and follows the general direction established by the Land-Use Element. As the population of a community grows, it may be necessary to build more facilities or consider providing new services.

Addressing community service needs is becoming even more challenging for local and county governments. In this age of budget deficits and shrinking revenues, municipal governments are constantly looking for ways to provide needed and expected services with fewer resources. To facilitate wise decisions and policies, it is valuable to estimate the future utility and facility needs of the Village.

Not only do service provisions need to meet resident demands, the type and cost of facilities and services affect property values and taxes and contribute to many aspects of the quality of life within the Village. Quality of life is further attributed to local features such as parks, schools, utilities, and protective services. These services require substantial investment supported by local tax bases or user fees. The level of service is generally influenced by the users' ability or interest in paying for the service.

This element includes a summary of existing facilities and services and details future needs for services and facilities. Goals, objectives, policies, recommendations, and programs are also provided.

Utilities and Community Facilities Include:

- ◆ Administrative facilities and services
- ◆ Police, fire, and emergency medical services
- ◆ Schools
- ◆ Quasi-public facilities (libraries, cemeteries, post offices)
- ◆ Parks and recreation
- ◆ Solid waste and recycling services
- ◆ Communication and power facilities
- ◆ Sanitary sewer services
- ◆ Public water services and supply
- ◆ Stormwater facilities
- ◆ Health and day care facilities

4.2 Existing Facilities and Services

Water and Wastewater Facilities

The residents of the Village of Kekoskee receive their water from individual well systems maintained on their properties. Except for downtown Kekoskee, wastewater from the residents of the Village of Kekoskee is treated by individual septic systems or mound systems that exist at the residences. The Kekoskee-LeRoy Sanitary District, which serves the hamlet development of downtown Kekoskee, have abandoned their original wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) and is now served by the City of Mayville through a service agreement. The development of a public water system for the same area has been discussed. Options include connection to the Town of LeRoy water system, purchase through the City of Mayville, or the formation of a new Kekoskee water utility and eventual construction of another system. The Village will continue to monitor and study options and seek grant assistance to do so.

Storm water Management Facilities

The goal of stormwater management is to prevent runoff from delivering pollutants or sediment to lakes, rivers, streams, or wetlands. Commonly applied stormwater management tools include: ditches, culverts, grassed waterways, rock chutes, retention basins or settling ponds, curb and gutter, storm sewer, and construction site erosion control.

State law currently requires certain construction sites, municipalities, and industries to obtain a Stormwater Discharge Permit from the WDNR. Construction sites with more than one acre of bare soil and non-metallic mine sites of any size must obtain a permit. Incorporated areas with a population of less than 50,000 are not required to obtain a permit. Industrial sites are categorized based on their potential for contamination of stormwater runoff. The highest potential sources of pollution are regulated more strictly than the lowest.

Downtown Kekoskee has the need to manage its storm water drainage. The handling of the drainage is done through the use of roadside ditches or natural drainage ways. The drainage in Village subdivisions has not been a problem to date.

Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling

The Village of Kekoskee utilizes GFL (Green For Life) - Glacier Ridge Landfill for the collection and disposal of their solid waste. The Glacier Ridge Landfill is also responsible for the handling of the recyclables for the Village of Kekoskee. The location of the landfill is shown on Map 6). There are plans to expand the landfill.

The Clean Sweep Operation conducted by Dodge County also affords local residents the opportunity to dispose of their hazardous materials appropriately, approximately every two (2) years.

Recreation Facilities

The availability of parks, recreational facilities and open space are all factors that contribute to the quality of life in the community. It is important to recognize the value of these facilities in planning for the current and future uses of land in the Village of Kekoskee (see Map 6).

Within the boundaries of the Village there is a small park located at the entrance to the Horicon Marsh and a park located along the STH 28 at the Horicon Marsh Education Center. Local residents can also enjoy the 83-acre Ledge Park located between Horicon and Mayville, off CTH TW. There are two (2) small park locations in the Kekoskee downtown area. The Village host “River Days” annually at the River Park site.

Ledge Park

This park is an 82.8-acre campground park located about two miles northeast of the City of Horicon in the Village of Kekoskee. It is situated on the “ledge” of the Niagara escarpment which provides a dramatic and scenic change in topography in the park. The park is basically divided into two (2) functional areas: upper ledge and lower ledge. Each area has a single roadway access to it. Lower ledge is primarily a picnicking area with two open shelters, a toilet building, a small playground, a pond with natural stream and some open areas. Some group and individual camping have been permitted on the extreme north end of the lower ledge area. The upper ledge area is primarily wooded with most of its campsites and its trails found there. The park is served by flush toilets and a shower facility. Two large open areas, one with a shelter and picnic facilities, the other with a playground area located to the west and south of the wooded areas. The park contains 45 campsites and is best known for its interesting rock formations and phenomenal scenic views of the Horicon Marsh along its hiking trails atop the ledge. Ledge Park is open year-round to provide winter recreational opportunities such as cross-country skiing.

Half of the Village of Kekoskee land mass makes up the southeast quadrant of the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge which offers numerous recreational, hiking, and nature oriented recreational activities to local residents as well as thousands of annual visitors to the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge.

Additionally, the Rock River, which runs through the Village, has attained national recognition. The river system has been placed in the *National Water Trails System* and is designated as the *Rock River Trail Scenic and Historic Route in Wisconsin*.

Library Services

The local residents of Village of Kekoskee have access to public library services provided in a number of the surrounding communities. These local libraries are part of the Wisconsin Federated Library System. The libraries offer local residents a wide array of services, publications and access to on-line Internet access and computer services.

Those public libraries in closest proximity to the Village of Kekoskee include locations in Mayville, Horicon, Lomira, and Theresa. The Mayville and Horicon Public Libraries are the largest in the immediate area. The Mayville Public Library has over 60,000 items in its collection including books, magazines, eBooks, audio books, videos, DVDs and CDs and internet access wi-fi and more. The Horicon Public Library has over 30,000 items in its collection. Both libraries are members of the Monarch Library System, an on-line catalog of Dodge, Ozaukee, Sheboygan, and Washington Counties and through computer terminals residents can access and request materials from all 33 libraries.

Police Services

The Village of Kekoskee does not operate its own Police Department. As such, any requests for law enforcement service and intervention are directed to the Dodge County Sheriff's Department for response and handling. There are occasions when the Sheriff's Department may redirect such calls to other law enforcement agencies in the immediate area of the Village of Kekoskee for mutual aid response.

Fire Protection

All fire protection services are provided to the Village of Kekoskee under an intergovernmental contractual agreement with the Kekoskee District Fire Department for all but three sections in the southern area of the Village that receive both their EMS and fire protection responses under a similar agreement with the City of Horicon (see Map 3).

Emergency Medical Service

All emergency medical services are provided to the Village of Kekoskee under an intergovernmental contractual agreement with the Kekoskee District Fire Department (First Responders) and the City of Horicon EMS (ambulance) for all but five sections in the northeastern area of the Village that receive their EMS services from the Village of Theresa (see Map 4).

Municipal Buildings

The Village of Kekoskee has a Village Hall/Community Center that it owns and maintains. It is located just to the east of the downtown Kekoskee on CTH TW (see Map 6). No improvements are projected for the building. The Village may consider the development of some park amenities to accommodate rental functions.

Telecommunications Facilities and Fiber Optics

SBC Wisconsin provides telephone service to Village of Kekoskee residents. Cellular telephone service is available throughout the Village. Strength of the signal will vary depending on tower locations and topography. There are two (2) cell towers located on the eastern side of the Village (see Map 6). Conventional phone service coverage is shown on Map 11.

Electric Utility and Natural Gas Transmission

Residents of the Village of Kekoskee receive their electrical service from the Alliant Energy Company, which is privately owned and located in Madison (see Map 12). The Alliant Energy Company also provides natural gas to the residents of the Village of Kekoskee.

Renewable Energy Facilities

There are two major wind energy facilities in Dodge County. One facility is located in the Town of Herman and consists of 33 wind turbines, producing 54 megawatts of power. Another facility is located in the Dodge County Towns of Leroy and Lomira as well as two neighboring towns in Fond Du Lac County. The project area consists of approximately 32,400 acres of predominantly agricultural land. The facility includes approximately 133 turbines throughout the project area and produces 200 megawatts of power. None of the facilities are directly in the Village of Kekoskee.

It is anticipated that solar farms will be the next big renewable energy focus for the state, primarily in large, undeveloped tracts of undeveloped farmland. Many portions of Dodge County fit that target. The Village of Kekoskee is no exception. The Village should develop a solar permit system as part of their zoning ordinance to regulate function, support cost and decommissioning of a system if an application was ever filed in the Village.

Health Care Facilities

Although there are no hospitals, clinics or physician offices actually located in the Village of Kekoskee, a number of health care and medical facilities exist in many of the surrounding areas. In addition, the City of Mayville is home to SSM Fond du Lac Regional Clinic and a number of health care related facilities such as dental, chiropractic, and physical therapy offices.

Marshfield Medical Center – Beaver Dam

The Marshfield Medical Center – Beaver Dam provides full inpatient and outpatient services, 24-hour emergency services, medical clinics, cancer care, and a full range of senior services.

Prairie Ridge Health Clinic – Beaver Dam

The Prairie Ridge Health Clinic in Beaver Dam is a new clinic and provides full family medicine, general surgery, clinical nutrition and diabetes services, orthopedics, and rehabilitation services.

Prairie Ridge Health – Hospital and Clinic

Main services that are offered are 24-hour emergency, obstetrics, general surgery, ambulatory surgery, cardiopulmonary, Home Oxygen Therapy, Lifeline, and Swing Bed. Additional services offered include allergy, dermatology, ear/nose/throat, oncology, ophthalmology, orthopedics, plastic surgery, podiatry, urology, and urgent care.

SSM Health Waupun Memorial Hospital

SSM Health Waupun Memorial Hospital is a 25-bed hospital, which provides a full range of inpatient and outpatient services to Waupun and surrounding rural areas. A number of medical services and specialties and department can be found at the hospital including laboratory, cardiopulmonary, rehabilitation, radiology, ultrasound, MRI, surgical, emergency, outpatient dialysis, medical/surgical services, intensive care and obstetrics.

Watertown Regional Medical Center

The Watertown Memorial Hospital provides 24-hour emergency care and provides the following services: behavioral & mental health, digestive health, emergency department, eye care, heart and vascular care, neurology, obstetric care & birthing, orthopedics and sports medicine, primary care, pulmonology, robotic surgery, senior behavioral health, and women's health.

Aurora Medical Center – Washington County

The Aurora Medical Center in Hartford offers a variety of services and departments including emergency department, heart care, orthopedics services, rehabilitation and sports medicine, telestroke technology, sleep center, pain management, women's health care, and hyperbaric medicine and wood care.

As the population ages and the baby-boomers move into older age groups there will be increasing demand for long-term care, nursing homes, community based residential facilities, and similar other elder care facilities. According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the following nursing home facilities are currently located in Dodge County:

- ◆ Bedrock HCS, Beaver Dam LLC, 90 beds, for profit
- ◆ Hillside Manor, Beaver Dam, 115 beds, Beaver Dam Community Hospital, nonprofit
- ◆ Clearview, Juneau, 120 beds, Dodge County owned
- ◆ Clearview Behavioral Health I, II, III, & IV, Juneau, 40 beds, Dodge County owned
- ◆ Clearview Brain Injury Center, Juneau, 30 beds, Dodge County owned
- ◆ Hope Health and Rehabilitation Center, Lomira, 38 beds, for profit
- ◆ Crossroads Care Center of Mayville, 80 beds, privately owned
- ◆ Randolph Health Services, Randolph, 84 beds, privately owned
- ◆ Bedrock HCS, Watertown, 112 beds, privately owned
- ◆ Marquardt Memorial Manor, Watertown, 140 beds, nonprofit corporation
- ◆ Christian Home and Rehabilitation Center, Waupun, 50 beds, nonprofit corporation

Childcare Facilities

Under Wisconsin law, no person may for compensation provide care and supervision for four or more children under the age of seven for less than 24 hours a day unless that person obtains a license to operate a child care center from the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. This does not include a relative or guardian of a child who provides care and supervision for the child; a public or parochial school; a person employed to come to the home of the child's parent or guardian for less than 24 hours a day; or a county, city, village, town, school district or library that provides programs primarily intended for recreational or social purposes, a program that operates not more than 4 hours per week, group lessons to develop a talent or skill such as dance or music, social group meetings and activities, group athletics, a program where the parents are on the premises and are engaged in shopping, recreation or other non-work activities, seasonal programs of 10 days or less duration in any 3-month period, including day camps, vacation bible school, and holiday child care programs, emergency situations, care and supervision for no more than 3 hours a day while the parent is employed on the premises.

There are three (3) different categories of state licensed childcare; they depend upon the number of children in care:

- ◆ Licensed Family Child Care Centers provide care for between 4 and 8 children. This care is usually in the provider's home.
- ◆ Licensed Group Child Care Centers provide care for 9 or more children. These centers are usually located somewhere other than a residence and may be small or large in size.
- ◆ Licensed Day Camps are seasonal programs that provide experiences for 4 or more children 3 years of age and older. These programs usually operate in an outdoor setting.

In 2022, there were approximately 49 licensed childcare facilities (Group and Family) located in Dodge County, according to the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. The greatest

concentration of group childcare facilities can be found in city of Beaver Dam and the city of Waupun. The greatest concentration of family childcare facilities is also in the city of Beaver Dam. Throughout Dodge County the total capacity for group childcare facilities is 1,510 children and for family childcare facilities is 86 children.

With increasing numbers of families being headed by a single parent and as more women enter the workforce, the number of children needing day care is an important consideration for families and employers alike. Within the Village of Kekoskee there are no group or family day care facilities. However, there are a limited number of childcare facilities in other communities that are close to the Village. In the city of Horicon there are 2 group facilities; in the village of Iron Ridge there is one group facility; in the village of Lomira there 1 group facility; and in the city of Mayville there are two group facilities.

In addition to the licensed daycare facilities, St. John's Lutheran and St. Mary's Catholic in Mayville and St. Stephen's in Horicon also offer local residents access to pre-kindergarten childcare programs.

Cemeteries

In addition to the Kekoskee or Tidyman Cemetery, and the Norton-Greenbush Cemetery located in the Village (maintained, but no longer in use), there are a number of cemeteries in the area surrounding the Village of Kekoskee. The vast majority of them can be found in and around the City of Mayville. These include the Graceland Cemetery, St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, St. John's Cemetery, and the Calvary or Old St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Schools

The children living in the Village of Kekoskee are served by two different school districts (See Map 5), the City of Mayville and the City of Horicon, depending on the residential area where they live. The City of Mayville operates Mayville Junior/Senior High, grades 7-12, Mayville Middle School, grades Kindergarten-6, and Parkview Primary Learning Center, grades Early Childhood-4K. The City of Horicon operates the Horicon High School, grades 9-12, the Horicon Junior High School, grades 6-8, and the Horicon Elementary School, grades Early Childhood-5.

In addition, there are three private/parochial schools within the immediate area that are available to local residents. These include: St. Stephen's Lutheran located in Horicon, grades Pre-kindergarten-8, St. John's Lutheran in Mayville, grades Pre-kindergarten-8, and St. Mary School located in Mayville, grades K3.

Post high school opportunities are available in Beaver Dam. Beaver Dam offers Moraine Park Technical College and Wayland Academy. Watertown provides opportunities through Madison Area Technical College and Maranatha Baptist Bible College.

Dodge County Fairgrounds

The Dodge County Fairgrounds, located along HWY 33 about four miles east of the City of Beaver Dam, is owned and operated by the Dodge County Fair Association. The fairgrounds are best known as the site of the annual Dodge County Fair in August and stock car racing during summer. The site contains a number of large exhibition buildings, a horse show arena, a

racetrack, and other facilities to accommodate other types of events such as horse shows, circuses, rallies, and outdoor conventions. Parking on the site is unimproved with mostly grassed areas used.

Correctional Institutions

There are four correctional facilities located in Dodge County. The John C. Burke Correctional Center, located in Waupun. The Dodge County Correctional Institution is located in Waupun. Fox Lake Correctional Institution, in the Town of Fox Lake, is a minimum-security facility. The Waupun Correctional Institution is a maximum-security facility located in Waupun and has a population of over 1000 adult inmates. Additionally, the Waupun State Prison Farm includes almost 300 acres of agricultural land and farm support buildings.

Private On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS)

Private on-site wastewater treatment systems, or POWTS, are systems that receive domestic quality wastewater and either retains it in a holding tank, or treats it and discharges it into the soil, beneath the ground surface. The Dodge County Sanitary Ordinance regulates POWTS in accordance with Wis. Stats. 59.70(5). Any system with a final discharge exposing treated wastewater upon the ground surface, or discharging directly into surface waters of the state, is subject to DNR regulation.

Communities that are not identified in Section 4.10 as having a publicly owned wastewater treatment system or sanitary district, utilize private onsite wastewater treatment systems for disposal of wastewater. The majority of the Village of Kekoskee residents are on their own POWTS.

Dodge County Drainage Districts

Chapter 88, Wisconsin Statutes, enables the establishment of local drainage districts and drainage boards. The drainage district program is responsible for the systematic drainage of lands for agricultural practices. Primary responsibility for planning for and administering drainage districts resides with the county drainage board. The board also resolves drainage disputes among landowners. Twenty-five counties, including Dodge County, have drainage boards with jurisdiction over about 160 individual drainage districts. The Dodge County Drainage Board oversees 36 separate drainage districts throughout Dodge County.

Drainage boards are responsible for planning to meet specific rule requirements established by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP). DATCP has established standards for the maintenance of district drains and facilities, procedures for assessments of land benefited by drainage, and procedures for investigating districts for compliance. DATCP also reviews and approves construction and restoration plans, provides on-site inspections, and performs other activities that will bring drainage districts into compliance.

In addition, county drainage boards are authorized to assess landowners for the cost associated with making improvements and/or correcting problems when the landowner is the source of adverse impacts on downstream water quality. Landowners must receive drainage board approval before taking any action which could potentially affect a drainage system.

4.3 Utilities and Community Facilities Trends and Outlook

The following trends are anticipated with regard to planning for future utilities and community facilities:

- ◆ Local government budget constraints will drive the need for intergovernmental cooperation for services and programs.
- ◆ There will be an increased need for communities and other jurisdictions to coordinate the development of trails and other recreational facilities.
- ◆ The demand for health care and childcare facilities will increase.
- ◆ Expect an increase in the interest to establish large scale renewable energy facilities.
- ◆ The need for a potable water system for downtown Kekoskee may develop.

4.4 Expansion or Rehabilitation of Existing Utilities and Community Facilities Timetable

The Village is in the process of assessing various utilities, facilities and services that will need expansion, construction, or upgrading over the planning period as part of the Village of Kekoskee Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for 2023-2027 and will continue to update and maintain their 5-year CIP.

4.5 Utilities and Community Facilities Goals and Objectives

Wisconsin Statutes 66.1001 requires a statement of overall goals and objectives to guide the future development and redevelopment of the Village over a 20-year planning period. The following are the goals and objectives developed by Village of Kekoskee with regard to the Utilities and Community Facilities element.

Goals:

Goal 1: To take advantage of the scenic and recreational potential in the Village.

Goal 2: Provide for quality, efficient and cost-effective community facilities and services that meet the existing and future demands of residents, landowners, and visitors without adversely affecting farmland or farm operations.

Goal 3: Improve technology services in the Village such as cable, broadband and internet service.

Stormwater Management

Goal 4: Promote stormwater management practices which reduce property and road damage and ensure a high level of water quality.

Water Supply

Goal 5: Protect the quality and quantity of ground and surface water features.

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facilities

Goal 6: Promote effective solid waste disposal and recycling services that protect the public health, natural environment, and general appearance of land use within the Village.

Utilities and Communication Services

Goal 7: Work to provide reliable, efficient, and well-planned utilities (i.e. gas, electric) and communication services (i.e. telephone, cable, telecommunications) to adequately serve existing and future development.

Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Goal 8: Provide recreational land, facilities and opportunities for the Village that are consistent with rural lifestyles.

Libraries and Schools

Goal 9: Promote quality schools and access to educational opportunities for everyone.

Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services and Facilities

Goal 10: Work to provide a level of police, fire and emergency medical services that meets existing and future demands of residents and development patterns.

Objectives:

1. Continue to promote the protection of the most productive agricultural land for agriculture.
2. Protect the primary groundwater recharge areas from developments, which might adversely affect the supply and quality of groundwater.
3. Protect wetlands and ecological areas from development.
4. Maintain the view and natural landscape of the ledge.
5. Prohibit the destruction of the ledge.
6. Promote public use and viewing of the Horicon Marsh area.
7. Promote the archaeological history of the Village.
8. Direct more intense, urban forms of development into areas that can provide adequate municipal services including public sewer and public water to support the development.
9. Examine the costs to publicly service proposed new developments including roads, sewer and water services, stormwater management, schools and other costs and determine the economic feasibility of the development.
10. Direct any developer whose lands are within 300 feet of a navigable stream or adjacent a wetland to obtain proper permits from the Village, Dodge County and WDNR.

11. Work with Dodge County, WDNR and the US Fish & Wildlife on cooperative projects that promote tourism and accommodate local and regional recreation needs.
12. Work with the providers of communication services to improve coverage.
13. Work to provide a full range of emergency services to serve the people of the Village.

4.6 Utilities and Community Facilities Policies and Recommendations

Policies and recommendations build on goals and objectives by providing more focused responses and actions to the goals and objectives. Policies and recommendations become the tools that the Village should use to aid in making decisions. Policies that direct action using the words “will” or “shall” are advised to be mandatory and regulatory aspects of the implementation of the comprehensive plan. In contrast, those policies that direct action using the word “should” are advisory and intended to serve as a guide.

Recommendations are specific actions or projects that the Village should be prepared to complete. The completion of these actions and projects are consistent with the policies, and therefore will help fulfill the comprehensive plan goals and objectives.

Policies and Recommendations:

1. Develop a Village Right of Way (ROW) Use Permit Ordinance to review construction and maintenance of utilities and communication infrastructure with Village Road ROW's.
2. Jointly share school and recreation facilities.
3. Discourage the construction of schools along arterial highways.
4. Allow development in areas identified for future park and recreation use only after a determination by the Plan Commission that the use of the land for public recreation would be impractical and not in the best interest of the Village.
5. Future schools and other public buildings should only be located where a public sanitary sewer system is available.
6. Construction of new schools should not be allowed in prime agricultural areas or along arterial highways.
7. Maintain the Village Hall in an effective condition and build any new public buildings attractively so as to enhance the community and promote civic pride.
8. Provide adequate, conveniently located off-street parking for all public uses where necessary.
9. Provide needed community services.

10. Limit rural residential development to sites with soil conditions suitable for a private sanitary system other than a holding tank.
11. Residential, commercial, and industrial growth should occur in relation to the Village's ability to supply additional police and fire protection.
12. Shared police and fire protection services between municipalities should be considered, particularly in urban service areas and other high growth areas.
13. Storm water management should be addressed as part of the review of all development proposals in order to evaluate the potential to increase storm water runoff to adjacent lands.
14. New on-site private wastewater treatment facilities shall not be allowed within a public sanitary sewer district.
15. Proper disposal of private onsite wastewater shall occur to ensure public health and protect ground and surface water quality.
16. Continue to protect the most productive agricultural land.
17. Continue to promote the protection of the groundwater by prohibiting developments that would pollute and interfere with the recharge of groundwater.
18. Keep development off floodplains.
19. Protect the Horicon Marsh in particular and other wetlands and ecological areas.
20. Protect the ledge skyline by prohibiting houses and other developments from the ledge.
21. The Village needs to approve the construction of each house located in areas where there is an archaeological find.
22. Limit the location of commercial wind turbines and solar farms anywhere in the Village if legally allowed.
23. Monitor the research that the water supply for Kekoskee has sufficient capacity, remains drinkable and is available to meet the needs of current and future residents.
24. Investigate code amendments that would require all developers to assume the expansion costs of their developments to protect taxpayers from bearing the cost of new development.
25. Work with area providers to improve technology services such as cable, broadband and internet service.
26. Work with Dodge County on the development of the Gold Star Recreation Trail along STH 28.

4.7 Utilities and Community Facilities Programs

The following general programs are currently available to the Village to assist with implementation of the various goals, objectives, policies, and recommendations of the Utilities & Community Facilities Element of the *Village of Kekoskee Comprehensive Plan*.

State Programs

Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center

Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center enhances Wisconsin's environment and economy by providing education and technical assistance programs to business and communities on source reduction, recycling, solid waste management, and pollution prevention. Visit <https://shwec.engr.wisc.edu/resources> for further information.

Rural Community Assistance Program

The Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP) is a national network of nonprofit partners with over 300 technical assistance providers across the country. RCAP works to improve the quality of life in rural America starting at the tap to assure safe drinking water and sanitary waste disposal for low- and moderate-income rural Wisconsin communities. RCAP services enable community staff to develop capacity to implement water, wastewater and solid waste projects and assist the community in coordinating efforts with consultants and government agencies. For further information visit <https://www.rcap.org/>.

Community Development Block Grant for Public Facilities (CDBG-PF)

The Wisconsin CDBG Public Facilities Program is designed to assist economically distressed smaller communities with public facility improvements. Examples of eligible projects include improvements, repairs, or expansions of streets, drainage systems, water and sewer systems, sidewalks, and community centers. The maximum grant for any single applicant is \$1,000,000. Grants are only available up to the amount that is adequately justified and documented with engineering or vendor estimates.

Community Development Block Grant Public Facilities for Economic Development (CDBG-PFED)

The CDBG Public Facilities for Economic Development Program helps underwrite the cost of municipal infrastructure necessary for business development that retains or creates employment opportunities. Eligible activities are improvements to public facilities such as water systems, sewerage systems, and roads that are owned by a general or special purpose unit of government, and which will principally benefit businesses, and which as a result will induce businesses to create jobs and invest in the community. The Wisconsin Department of Commerce, Bureau of Community Finance should be contacted for further information.

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Grant Programs.

The Knowles-Nelson State Stewardship Fund is a land acquisition program for the State of Wisconsin. Four (4) Stewardship grant programs are available: Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP), Urban Green Space (UGS) grants, Urban Rivers (UR) grants, and Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR). The program offers a 50 percent grant match to create parks, hiking trails, hunting grounds, and other facilities. The funds can also be utilized for facilities improvements such as road construction and capital acquisition projects (picnic equipment, playgrounds, etc.). More information is available at: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stewardship/grants/>

Wisconsin Fund

The Wisconsin Fund grant program provides financial incentives to qualified Dodge County residents who replace their failing private onsite wastewater treatment system (POWTS). Eligibility is based upon several criteria, including household income and age of the structure. Visit: <https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/WisconsinFund/Default.aspx> for more information.

Office of Rural Prosperity within the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC)

Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers called for creating the Office of Rural Prosperity in his State of the State speech in February 2020 to “provide a one-stop shop for folks to navigate state programs and resources tailored to rural communities, businesses and workers.” The program is relatively new but has recently developed a long list of programs available to assist communities with a variety of needs. The program has the potential to be a “game changer” in linking resources to rural communities for workforce housing, economic development, transportation, ag-related business and tourism and much more. Information as the program develops can be obtained through <https://ruralwi.com/resources/>

Wisconsin Rural Partners (WRP)

Since December 1992, WRP has served as Wisconsin’s State Rural Development Council (SRDC) through a cooperative agreement with the US Department of Agriculture. WRP initiatives are more far reaching than just housing, but the WRP can provide key resources.

WRP is a neutral, nonprofit organization that brings together a cross section of residents, organizations and leaders important to rural communities throughout the state. The primary focus is on addressing issues and building collaboration between community, state, federal, nonprofit, and private sector leaders that impact rural communities.

WRP has designed and implemented highly effective programming to identify and address key issues that impact rural life. WRP is a member of National Rural Development Partnership and Partners for Rural America that actively promotes economic, social and community development for rural Wisconsin.

WRP is an active advocate for locally based solutions focused on core issues and opportunities. They encourage private/public partnerships for sustainable rural community development. Through fostering and celebrating local initiatives and projects that promote stewardship and expansion of community and natural resources including:

- Broadband Access and Adoption
- Community Infrastructure and Systems
- Child and Health Care Access
- Housing Financing and Construction
- Transportation Maintenance, Access and Use
- Agriculture and Natural Resource Use and Conservation

More information can be obtained through the WRP web site at: <https://www.wiruralpartners.org>

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