



NCWRPC News

The official newsletter of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Serving Adams, Forest, Juneau, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Vilas, and Wood Counties since 1973.

Photo: travelwisconsin.net

Winter 2016
Issue 58



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Quarterly Quote

"Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored."

- Aldous Huxley

2015 Aerial Imagery Available

In the spring of 2015, airplanes flew high above the region capturing images of the landscape. This leaf-off imagery dataset is now becoming available and is useful for many efforts, including land records, emergency management and planning.

Every five years the Wisconsin Regional Orthophotography Consortium (WROC), coordinated by the NCWRPC, sponsors a multi-county airphoto imagery effort. This project includes partnerships with many local, federal, state, and private entities.



The image above is a 2015 aerial photo over Langlade County.

The digital imagery acquired is being processed into a public domain dataset with the following specifications:

- 18" spatial resolution
- Leaf-off
- 4-band natural color
- GeoTIFF format
- Wisconsin Transverse Mercator projection
- Tiled by USGS quarter-quadrangle



For more information about the digital imagery or WROC, contact Andy Faust, GISP, at 715-849-5510 ext. 305, or afaust@ncwrpc.org.

NEWCOM-NSIC Mobile Communication Drill

The North East Wisconsin Public Safety Communication (NEWCOM) hosted its second "Mobile Communication Drill" at the Nokomis Fire Department in Oneida County. More than 80 people representing 34 agencies from around the region and state participated.

This drill allowed public safety professionals to test communication equipment and learn how other agencies have designed equipment platforms, all with the goal of increasing communication between agencies. One of the more interesting demonstrations was conducted by the Plover Police Department with their unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) capturing low level aerial images, often used in search and rescue efforts.

Some of the objectives of the drill were:

- Learn the frequencies, channels, and capabilities of various agency mobile communication platforms.
- Test equipment in an interoperable environment – to discover limitations and needs of systems.
- Learn about the various mobile communication resources available to the region.
- Establish point of contacts for deployment of communication resources.

NEWCOM plans to hold the event every 3 years to test existing and new equipment platforms.

For more information about the event contact Andy Faust, GISP, at 715-849-5510, Extension 305 or email afaust@ncwrpc.org.



Commission Meeting Highlights

The last Meeting of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission included adoption of the Annual Budget and the final review of the 2016 Work Program.

The approved budget was very similar to last year's. It includes three primary sources of revenue: the levy or membership charge will collect about \$219,000, continuing grants from EDA & DOT remained the same at \$123,000, and project revenues are anticipated at about \$507,000. Combined, total revenues are \$851,000. Overall, total expenditures remain stable, with the major cost being salaries and fringe benefits.

The 2016 Work Program was reviewed and contains over 70 projects in the areas of economic development, GIS & mapping, intergovernmental cooperation, land use, and transportation planning. Some of the projects include: An update of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs), release of the 2015 airphotos, web based county survey record hosting for several counties, and providing staffing the North Central Wisconsin Stormwater Coalition, NEWCOM, and the Northwoods Rail Commission. In addition, there are numerous town, village, city and county Comprehensive Plan updates, All Hazard Mitigation Plan updates, and Outdoor Recreation Plan updates. Finally, there are several Transportation Alternatives Program grant applications, urban boundary updates for several communities, and a Regional Bike Plan for 2016. Another busy year serving the region.

Although there are already many projects identified, there is always room for one more. If you have a possible project, feel free to contact Dennis Lawrence at 715-849-5510, Extension 304, or at dlawrence@ncwrpc.org

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update Underway

NCWRPC was designated the Economic Development District for North Central Wisconsin in 1980 by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA). As part of that designation we are required to prepare and update a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region. The next CEDS update effort will occur over 2016 with plan adoption anticipated in early 2017.

The CEDS provides an overview of the ongoing economic development work program in the region, prepares an assessment of economic development conditions in the EDD, identifies a Regional Economic Development Strategy, and highlights potential projects. One of the more important reasons to maintain this designation is that it provides access to grant funds from EDA. The update will also incorporate the recently adopted Regional Livability Plan and the current planning efforts of the workforce development board.

To accomplish the update a CEDS Committee will be established at the next NCWRPC meeting. In addition, several county economic development professionals will be invited to participate. The committee will review various economic data, EMSI information, maps, and establish goals, objectives and policies, to create a new regional development strategy. That strategy will become the foundation of the NCWRPC economic development work program. Significant regional projects will also be identified and reviewed for possible inclusion in the CEDS.

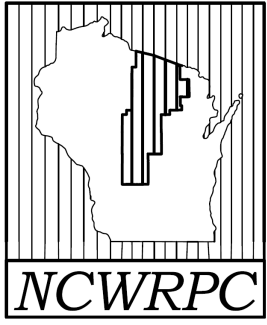
CEDS Process



EDA has identified regional innovation as the key to global competitiveness, which in turn leads to new and better jobs, a more resilient economy, and enhanced quality of life for everyone. Regions have become the centers of competition in the new global economy and those that work together to leverage limited resources and use their strengths to overcome weaknesses will fare better than those that do not.

To foster job creation and attract private investment, EDA focuses on strategic investments to support development in regions that work together. Nationally EDA awards over \$200 million dollars every year for public infrastructure and innovative projects to spur economic development. Some recent projects in our region include the Wood Technology Center of Excellence in Langlade County, business park expansions in the cities of Adams and Mauston, and a wastewater treatment plant upgrade in Wisconsin Rapids.

If you have any questions about the CEDS process or how to become involved in the process, contact Dennis Lawrence at 715-849-5510, Extension 304 or at dlawrence@ncwrpc.org.



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New Commissioners

At our last meeting we welcomed two new Commissioners to our organization.

Catherine Wineman will represent Marathon County. Catherine previously served on the Marathon County Board of supervisors and resides in the Stratford area. She was appointed by the Marathon County Board.

Ted Cushing will represent Oneida County. Ted currently serves on the Oneida County Board of Supervisors and resides in the Town of Hazelhurst. He was appointed by Governor Walker.

Both will be great additions to our organization!



NCWRPC Commissioners

Adams County

Richard Bakovka

Rocky Gilner

Appointment Pending

Forest County

Bucky Dailey

Jimmy Landru, Jr.

Paul Millan

Juneau County

Jerry Niles

Edmund Wafle

Kenneth Winters

Langlade County

George Bornemann

Ronald Nye

Paul Schuman

Lincoln County

Robert Lussow

Frank Saal, Jr.

Doug Williams

Marathon County

Craig McEwen

Catherine Wineman

Appointment Pending

Oneida County

Harland Lee

Thomas Rudolph

Ted Cushing

Portage County

Inactive

Vilas County

Bob Egan

Kim Simac

Appointment Pending

Wood County

Gerald Nelson

Appointment Pending

Appointment Pending