



Office of
PLANNING AND ZONING

WRIGHT COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
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Wright County Seeks Volunteers for Committee Work on Northwest Quadrant Plan

To: Township Boards, City Councils, Lake Associations, and anyone interested
From: Wright County Planning and Zoning Office
Date: November 1, 2007
Re: Northwest Quadrant Land Use Plan

Having finalized the Comprehensive Plan for the "Northeast Quadrant" (NEQ), Wright County has begun the process of preparing a Comprehensive Land Use Plan for the "Northwest Quadrant" (NWQ) of the County. This NWQ includes the Townships of Chatham, Albion, French Lake, Southside, Corinna, Maple Lake, Silver Creek and Clearwater, and the Cities of Maple Lake, Annandale, South Haven, Clearwater, and a small part of the City of Buffalo. County staff and Dan Jochum of our consultant team from SEH, Inc. will be contacting and meeting with township and city elected officials and staff to explain the process, answer questions and obtain initial input. There will be public information meetings scheduled during plan preparation (most likely after the holidays), and again when the plan is nearing completion. The County Planning Commission will also meet with staff regularly to review progress and offer feedback and direction.

Much of the work completed on the NEQ Plan will be transferable to the NWQ Plan, but there are also many unique features of northwestern Wright County that need to be considered. Wright County is looking for volunteers to serve on various committees that will provide guidance to County staff and the consultant team in the formulation and adoption of this new plan. Aggregate mining issues were an important factor in the NEQ Plan and are already an issue in the Northwest. A group to address this issue will include members from both the NE and NW Quads, producer representatives and members concerned about environmental and social impacts. Other committees will be needed to consider the designation of growth areas or "transition districts", particularly around the cities of Maple Lake and Annandale. (Clearwater and Clearwater Township already have a detailed orderly annexation agreement, and there appears to be very limited need for major boundary expansions by South Haven or Buffalo in this quadrant.) Finally, due to the many extraordinary lakes in the NWQ, we expect to also form a task force to discuss and address the need for any new or expanded policies or plans for development in lakeshore areas and water quality in general.

Please use the back of this form, a copy of it or send a letter to this office by November 21, nominating you or designating a possible volunteer(s), the desired committee, and the interests and qualifications of the volunteer. The names will be submitted to the County Board of Commissioners for review and selection of the committees. Committee goals and purposes may vary depending on the topic, but we expect that each committee will meet three or four times over the winter in the Courthouse at a time to be determined when the committee has been formed. These are advisory committees, who will serve to critique our plan in progress, help to build consensus among various interests, and assist in the development of goals and policies and a land use plan map for selected areas. Guest speakers and format for the meetings will be tailored to the topic and goals of the committees.

Wright County Comprehensive Plan for the Northwest Quadrant
Volunteer/Nominee Application

I am interested in serving on a committee to assist Wright County in the formulation of its plan. My particular interests and/or the group I have been asked to represent are noted below. (Please feel free to attach a letter describing any further qualifications or interests.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Nominated by (not required, but helpful): _____
(City, Township, Lake Association, Watershed District, other....)

I am particularly interested in the following committee(s). (Check as many as you like, but only one if you are primarily interested in that topic)

Aggregate (gravel) mining and protection
(Some members will also be recruited from the Monticello-Buffalo area.)

Annandale Transition District (Urban growth area around Annandale.)
(At least one member should be nominated each by Annandale, Southside and Corinna.)

Maple Lake Transition District
(At least one member should be nominated each by the City of Maple Lake, and Maple Lake, Corinna and Albion Townships.)

Lake and Water Quality--Natural Resource Issues
(Nominees from lake associations, the Clearwater River Watershed District and anyone interested in environmental issues.)

Interests and Qualifications (Attach extra sheets if needed)

Submit to: Wright County NWQ Plan
Office of Planning and Zoning
10 2nd Street NW, Room 140
Buffalo, Mn. 55313-1185