

ELEMENT 7:	INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
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I. Element Overview

The City of Monona recognizes the importance of having cooperative relationships with surrounding jurisdictions and has therefore developed cooperative arrangements with other municipalities and special districts. Intergovernmental cooperation is important because it reduces or eliminates the duplication of services; coordinates a set of goals, objectives, policies, and programs for joint planning and decision making with other jurisdictions; provides a mechanism for conflict resolution; and identifies and resolves incompatible goals, objectives, policies, and programs. Monona has participated in numerous collaborative planning efforts, as well as simply working cooperatively with other jurisdictions or municipalities to provide services. Monona has collaborated with various cities, villages, and towns; Dane County; the State of Wisconsin; planning organizations; the Monona Grove School District; and the Madison Metropolitan Sewage District. Some of Monona’s intergovernmental cooperation efforts have included land use planning, transportation planning, and mutual aid for police and fire services.

II. Background Information, Data, and Analysis

Monona is currently and has historically been involved with intergovernmental cooperation. The City will continue these efforts with its existing cooperative arrangements and will continually seek out new ways of cooperating with other jurisdictions to provide better planning and service for its residents. Monona cooperates with several different local government units including local, county, and state governments; school districts; and other special districts. Following is a description of these cooperative relationships. (See Map Appendix A for a reference map of these municipalities.)

A. Local Municipalities

1. Town of Cottage Grove

The Town of Cottage Grove, population 3,839 (2000 Census), is one of the unincorporated jurisdictions located east of Monona and east of the Town of Blooming Grove. Most of the Town of Cottage Grove is encompassed in the Monona Grove School District.

2. Town of Blooming Grove

The Town of Blooming Grove, population 1,768 (2000 Census), is an unincorporated jurisdiction located south and east of Monona. Part of the Town of Blooming Grove is located within the Monona Grove School District. The City of Monona and the Town of Blooming Grove provide each other with mutual aid for fire and police service when necessary.

3. Village of Cottage Grove

The Village of Cottage Grove is located twelve miles east of Monona and has a population of 4,059 (2000 Census). The Village of Cottage Grove, the Town of Cottage Grove, and the City of Monona are the three major jurisdictions comprising the Monona Grove School District. All schools in this district are located in Monona and the Village of Cottage Grove.

4. Village of McFarland

The Village of McFarland is located six miles southeast of Monona and has a population of 6,416 (2000 Census). The City of Monona and the Village of McFarland provide each other with mutual aid for police and fire services when necessary.

5. City of Madison

Monona's neighbor on its north, east, and west sides is the City of Madison. Its population in 2000 was 208,054 (U.S. Census Bureau). Together, the two cities have embarked on numerous projects. The Broadway corridor runs through both of these communities and served as a major thoroughfare for traffic before the construction of the Beltline Highway (U.S. Highway 12/18) in 1988. The City of Monona created the *Broadway Corridor Plan* in 1989, shortly after the opening of the Beltline to address redevelopment of the portions of Broadway that are located within the City of Monona. In 1994, the Cities of Monona and Madison formed the West Broadway Planning Committee to prepare a revitalization plan for the West Broadway area, where both communities border the road. In 1997, the two communities adopted a concept plan for the West Broadway area. West Broadway is being reconstructed in 2004.

Additionally, the Cities of Madison and Monona are in the planning process for the redevelopment of Monona Drive, which runs through both communities. An advisory committee for the planning process is composed of representatives, government officials, and business owners from the City of Monona, the City of Madison, and Dane County. The City of Monona also plans to work cooperatively with the City of Madison to create urban design and signage standards for the Monona Drive corridor.

Monona's on-street bikeway system is part of the Lake Monona Loop that runs through the Madison isthmus and connects with the City of Madison's bike route system. Expansion of this system and intergovernmental cooperation could occur in future years. The City of Monona additionally contracts with the Madison Metro system to provide a Metro bus service line that stops at the South Towne Mall and travels down Broadway and Monona Drive. Additionally, the Cities of Madison and Monona provide each other with mutual aid for police, fire, EMS, and paramedic services when necessary. Madison paramedics are occasionally called to Monona to administer aid.

Monona and Madison have recently approved and are in the process of discussing additional intergovernmental cooperation agreements. Madison and several surrounding communities, including Monona, have drafted and approved a Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) agreement. The City of Madison has the necessary equipment and team to handle hazardous material spill situations and will provide these services to some surrounding communities, including Monona, which does not have a specialized unit. An intergovernmental cooperation agreement (66.30) details this arrangement with the City of Madison and surrounding communities.

Currently, City of Monona officials are reviewing a proposal for the Monona Water Utility to make a connection to the Madison Water Utility for use in the event of an emergency.

B. Cities and Villages Mutual Insurance Company

Wisconsin municipalities cooperate at many levels, including some non-traditional methods that have saved taxpayers millions of dollars in the cost of liability insurance. Cities and Villages Mutual Insurance Company (CVMIC) was created in 1987 by a group of Wisconsin cities and villages in an effort to ensure the long term stability in the cost and availability of liability insurance. Monona joined CVMIC in 1988.

Liability insurance is an important part of the risk management function of local government. To address the volatility in the insurance market, communities took advantage of provisions in Wisconsin law that allow units of government to create intergovernmental arrangements to work cooperatively on services and operations. A public intergovernmental unit, comprised of 38 municipalities, and a private

insurance company was created to provide a stable risk management liability program. By participating in this program, the City of Monona has had cost savings estimated over \$500,000 (in 2002). Members are able to participate in group purchase programs for insurance products, on-site loss control services, risk management consulting, and a wide variety of training programs. Through this cooperative approach, and in addition to premium savings, municipalities have developed policies and procedures that have cut liability and worker's compensation losses and have improved the efficiency and quality of services to local taxpayers. Through the aggressive management of losses, members have saved untold millions by avoiding the situations that create liability claims against municipalities.

C. Dane County

The City of Monona has numerous working relationships with Dane County. The County has been growing rapidly in recent years, and the County's population in 2000 reached 426,526 (U.S. Census Bureau). Dane County and the City of Monona's governmental bodies have been working together on projects such as bicycle routes and roadway planning along the reconstructed East and West Broadway (County Trunk Highway BW) corridor.

The Dane County Parks Department, in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources, is developing connecting routes to provide linkages for the new state off-street Capital City Trail that connects the Military Ridge and the Glacial Drumlin Trails through Dane County. Plans include a link to Monona at South Towne Drive. A map of the proposed trail expansions is included in the *Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan*.

In 1989, the City of Monona adopted the *Broadway Corridor Plan* to redevelop the Broadway area after the construction of the Beltline Highway (U.S. Highway 12/18). The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), Dane County, and the City of Monona jointly developed a roadway and streetscape design for East and West Broadway (County Highway BW).

In 1993, the *Monona Yahara River Waterfront Walkway Plan* was adopted. It is a long-range concept plan for a boardwalk and wetland trails from Monona to access Dane County's Nine Springs E-Way trail system. This concept plan was prepared in consultation with the Dane County Parks Department.

Currently, the City of Monona, along with the City of Madison and Dane County are in the planning process to redevelop Monona Drive (County Highway BB). A planning advisory committee is composed of representatives and officials from the three different municipalities.

Additionally, the City of Monona has participated in planning efforts for the *Dane County Park and Open Spaces and Trails Plans*, the *Madison Urban Area and Dane County Bicycle Transportation Plan*, and various *Transportation Improvement Plans*. Staff members from the City of Monona, such as the City Engineer, Director of Public Works, and the Planning and Community Development Coordinator, have participated in these planning efforts by serving on the committees preparing the plans.

Monona is also participating in Dane County's BUILD (Better Urban Infill and Development) Networking Committee. Staff members from Monona are sharing ideas and experiences in revitalization and redevelopment efforts with other communities in Dane County. In 2000, Monona received a \$25,000 BUILD grant from Dane County to assist in the preparation of the *Monona Drive Land Use Vision Plan*. In 2003, Monona received a BUILD \$10,000 grant to prepare design standards for Monona Drive.

A final significant arrangement that Monona has with Dane County is for 911 services. If the City of Monona's 911 center is down, all 911 emergency calls from Monona will transfer to Dane County's 911 Center.

D. State of Wisconsin

The Department of Natural Resources, in conjunction with the Dane County Parks Department, is developing connecting routes to provide links for the new state off-street Capital City Trail that connects the Military Ridge and the Glacial Drumlin Trails through Dane County. Plans include a link to

Monona at South Towne Drive. The City of Monona has recognized the need to identify bicycle and pedestrian trail systems in Monona, as well as the need to coordinate their planning and implementation with the State of Wisconsin.

The City of Monona has also worked closely with various state departments, such as the Department of Natural Resources (WiDNR) and the Department of Transportation (WisDOT) on various plans and projects. WisDOT has assisted Monona in its redevelopment planning process for the Broadway corridor and Monona Drive projects. The WiDNR has assisted the community when developing new subdivisions near wetland areas and other planning issues that have involved natural resources.

Monona also contracts with the State for weights and measures inspections. The State of Wisconsin and the City of Monona have a formal agreement for this arrangement. The State conducts annual, random inspections at Monona's retail centers and gas stations for the City. Additionally, the State of Wisconsin contracts with the City of Monona for underground fuel tank inspections.

E. Monona Grove School District

The Monona Grove School District serves the residents in the City of Monona. The Monona Grove School District (MGSD) encompasses 23.5 square miles and includes the City of Monona, the Village of Cottage Grove, most of the Town of Cottage Grove, and small portions of the Town of Blooming Grove, the Town of Sun Prairie, and the City of Madison. (See the map in the Utilities, Community Facilities and Services Element, page 4-10, for the District's boundaries.)

The Monona Grove School District is overseen by a seven-member Board of Education elected each spring, who have staggered three-year terms. The district serves approximately 2,788 students (in 2003) from these six jurisdictions. (See pages 4-10 through 4-12 for current enrollment and projected student populations in the district.)

The City of Monona and the Monona Grove School District have worked cooperatively to share the community's recreational resources including parks and swimming pools. The City has a formal agreement with the School District for the use of the indoor pool. This agreement will expire on December 31, 2004, and can be renewed in five-year increments. In the agreement, the City administers swimming programs, while the School District provides the maintenance of the facility. In addition, the City of Monona plans to continue working cooperatively with the School District to maintain the parks in the future. Currently, the District and the City have usage and maintenance agreements for Winnequah Park. With the development of new parks and open spaces, Monona recognizes the importance and necessity of continuing and improving communication between the City and user groups such as the School District.

Monona School/Community Cable (MS/CC), a partnership between the City of Monona and the Monona Grove School District, operates on channels provided through a franchise agreement with Charter Communications. The City/School partnership, established in 1979, provides both financial and human resources from MS/CC. (For more information on this service, see the Utilities, Community Facilities and Services Element.)

F. Madison Metropolitan Sewage District

The Madison Metropolitan Sewage District (MMSD) provides sewer service to the City of Monona. The Nine Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant accommodates Monona's sewage waste. This facility is located on Moorland Road, south of Monona. The City of Monona is billed by the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District and subsequently bills Monona residents for this service through their water bills. Representatives to the District's board are appointed by the County Executive and are confirmed by the County Board. Currently, there are no representatives from the City of Monona on this board.

G. Madison Metropolitan Planning Organization

The City of Monona is located within the Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (Madison Area MPO) jurisdiction. Annually, Monona contributes \$2,883 to the Madison Area MPO (2001). Monona has participated in cooperative planning efforts with the Madison Area MPO in recent years. Monona participated in the drafting of the *Madison Urban Area and Dane County Bicycle Transportation Plan* (2000) and other *Transportation Improvement Plans*. The Madison Area MPO is responsible for transportation planning in the Madison metropolitan area. The Madison Area MPO also coordinates with the Dane County Regional Planning Commission (DCRPC) on transportation planning matters. The City of Monona is prepared to collaborate and coordinate with the Madison Area MPO and its future plans as appropriate.

H. Dane County Regional Planning Commission

The Dane County Regional Planning Commission (DCRPC) addresses the increasingly complex water quality and land use planning issues in Dane County. The DCRPC adopted *Vision 2020* as a part of the regional master plan for Dane County in June 1997. As part of this Plan, the *Dane County Land Use and Transportation Plan* was developed by the DCRPC, and includes a multi-modal, system-wide transportation plan for the county. It is the framework for transportation improvements in Dane County. This Plan also details the County's vision for such things as transportation, land use, housing, and economic development in the next twenty years. The Dane County RPC also prepares community plans; plan and ordinance amendments; and special studies at the request of local governments. The City of Monona will engage in cooperative efforts as recommended by the County Plan and with other RPC plans as appropriate.

I. Existing or Potential Conflicts

The City of Monona currently has positive relationships and intergovernmental cooperation with other local units of government. There are no potential conflicts foreseen, as the City is committed to planning and working cooperatively with neighboring jurisdictions. As conflicts may arise during any planning process, the City of Monona's open relationship with other local units of government is expected to help resolve any potential conflicts.



III. Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Note. This does not imply ranking of importance.

Goal:	Objectives & Policies:
<p>I) Maintain and establish additional mutually beneficial intergovernmental relationships with surrounding jurisdictions.</p>	<p>A) Maintain a cooperative partnership with the Monona Grove School District to use and maintain the City’s parks and school district facilities, such as the indoor pool.</p>
	<p>B) Continue to work with the City of Madison, Dane County, and State of Wisconsin agencies in redevelopment and street reconstruction projects as appropriate.</p>
	<p>C) Coordinate and cooperate with the Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (Madison Area MPO), the Dane County Regional Planning Commission (DCRPC), Dane County, and State Planning initiatives as necessary.</p>
	<p>D) Work with neighboring communities and Dane County to redevelop shared corridors in a consistent and complementary manner.</p>
	<p>E) Continue city policies for mutual aid with the City of Madison, City of McFarland, and the Town of Blooming Grove.</p>
	<p>F) Work with the City of Madison to create and maintain urban design and sign standards for Monona Drive.</p>