



2007 ANNUAL REPORT DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PARKS

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF OZAUKEE COUNTY

The Department of Planning and Parks mission is *to provide an organized framework for Ozaukee County residents and visitors of Ozaukee County to appreciate and enjoy the natural and cultural resources, local ecology, recreational experiences, well planned sustainable growth and improved quality of life in Ozaukee County through the preservation and protection of natural resources, increased awareness and education, stewardship, comprehensive planning, and the acquisition, development, enhancement and operation of large scale, intergovernmental recreational opportunities including exceptionally well-maintained golf courses, multi-use trails and parks.* It was a pleasure to serve Ozaukee County taxpayers, visitors to Ozaukee County and other users of the Department in an efficient, effective and professional manner.

OVERVIEW OF MAJOR PROGRAMS: (www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/parks)

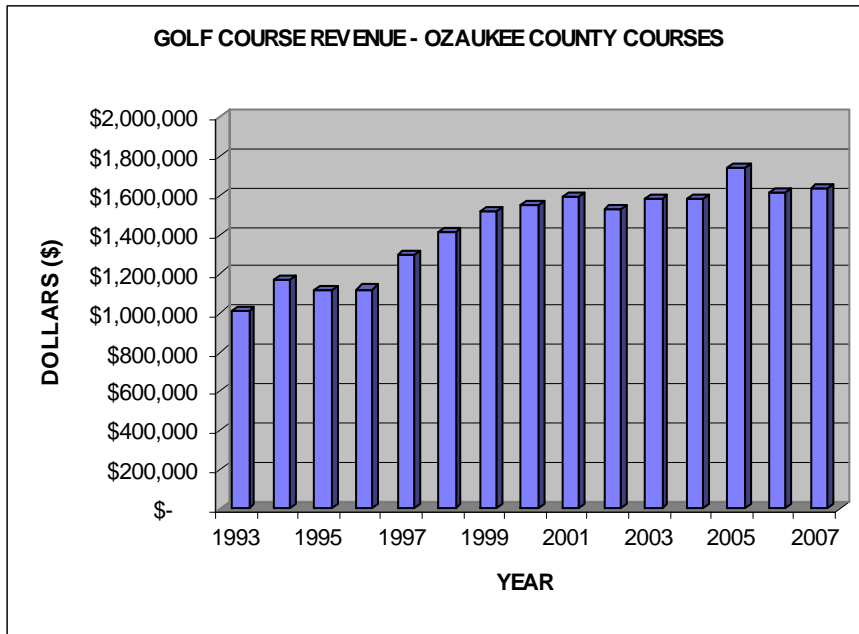
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING / PLANNING (www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/smartgrowth)

The Department continued to lead the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive planning effort, which includes 14 communities in Ozaukee County and SEWRPC. This effort is being conducted under a Wisconsin Department of Administration Comprehensive Planning grant for \$408,000 for a total 4-year development project budget of \$680,000. In 2007, the Department staffed and coordinated meetings of *Comprehensive Planning Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)* [Meetings = 12] and also the various Element Work Groups including: the *Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) Technical Advisory Work Group* [3], *Public Participation Planning Work Group (PPP)* [2], *Housing, Economic Development and Cultural Resources Element Work Group (HEDCR)* [3], *Agricultural and Natural Resources Work Group (ANR)* [5], and *Land Use, Transportation and Utilities & Community Facilities Work Group (LUTU)* [8] to assist in developing multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan for Ozaukee County. The Department also continued to staff and coordinate efforts of the *County Comprehensive Planning Board (CPB)* [7] and the *Comprehensive Planning Technical Staff Work Group*. Furthermore, several public participation events and efforts were undertaken including: meetings with each participating local unit of government to review and draft their land use plan maps (e.g. plan commissions), a special presentation on water resources including the Regional Water Quality Management Plan Update and the Regional Water Supply Plan, a booth at the Ozaukee County Fair, a First Fridays Forum, several LOGIN meetings, interest group meetings (e.g. Land Conservation Partnership of Ozaukee County), a presentation to the Environment and Land Use Committee and County Board of Supervisors on the inventory chapters, articles in the Department newsletter, an Intergovernmental Cooperation Workshop (October 31, 2007), and a joint Ozaukee/Washington County Implementation Workshop at Riveredge Nature Center (December 6, 2007). In addition, the County planning website was updated and maintained with the latest plan chapter information as well as the minutes of all the various planning committees, boards, and work groups. Also, the Departments attended, presented and assisted at numerous participating local government plan commission meetings / local workgroup meetings throughout 2007. One of the more significant accomplishments in 2007 was the completion and CAC/CPB approval of seven of the element chapters of the Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Ozaukee County: 2035 as well as the preparation of all the thematic mapping for these element chapters and for each participating local government. The seven Element chapters include the following: 1) Chapter VI: Issues and Opportunities, 2) Chapter VII: Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources, 3) Chapter VIII: Land Use, 4) Chapter IX: Housing, 5) Chapter X: Transportation, 6) Chapter XI: Utilities and Community Facilities, and 7) Chapter XII: Economic Development (<http://www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/SmartGrowth/DraftPlanSummary.htm>). Finally,

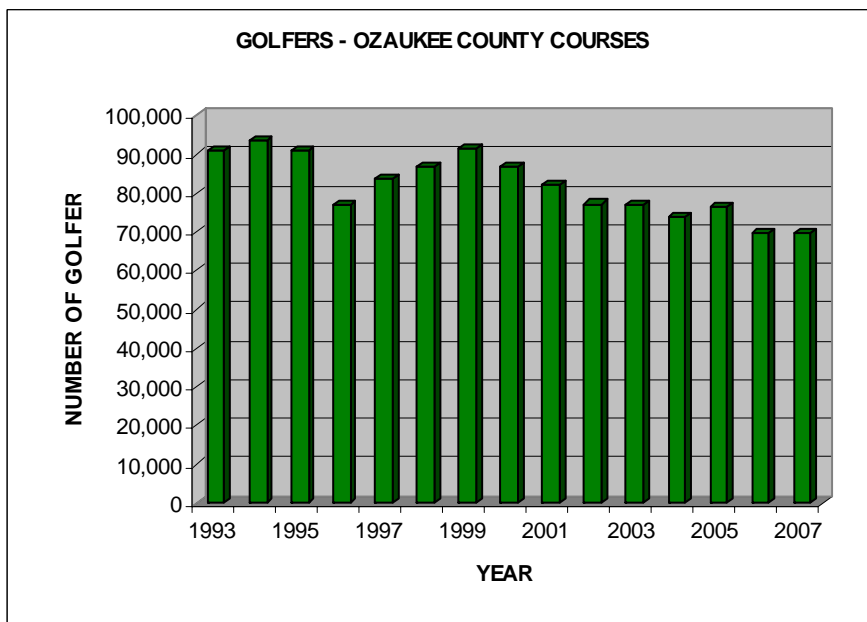
the Department assisted in the development and mapping for the introduction and inventory chapters (I – V) for each of the participating local unit of government's comprehensive plan documents. The Environment and Land Use Committee reviewed and was an approving authority for two preliminary plats / certified survey maps for land divisions in 2007. Several other land divisions were reviewed for objecting authority or as advisory reviews in the cities and villages.

OZAUKEE COUNTY GOLF COURSES – MEE-KWON AND HAWTHORN HILLS

The County's courses hosted 69,541 golfers this year. This is a decrease of 226 golfers from the 2006 season. The total revenue for both courses was \$1,637,642.58, an increase of \$19,068 compared to the 2006 season. Both golf courses opened March 26, 2007. Hawthorne Hills and Mee-Kwon Golf Courses stayed open until November 19 and November 26, 2007 respectively. The following illustrates the revenue and golfers from 1993 to 2007:



REVENUE	
1993	\$ 1,015,000
1994	\$ 1,167,000
1995	\$ 1,118,000
1996	\$ 1,122,374
1997	\$ 1,294,794
1998	\$ 1,410,635
1999	\$ 1,524,159
2000	\$ 1,548,718
2001	\$ 1,591,597
2002	\$ 1,533,655
2003	\$ 1,587,470
2004	\$ 1,585,153
2005	\$ 1,742,190
2006	\$ 1,618,575
2007	\$ 1,637,643



GOLFERS	
1993	91,053
1994	93,815
1995	91,226
1996	76,886
1997	83,906
1998	86,869
1999	91,660
2000	86,690
2001	82,292
2002	77,281
2003	77,204
2004	73,776
2005	76,373
2006	69,767
2007	69,541

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) DEVELOPMENT

Significant progress was made on three major GIS development projects; namely, 1) the modernization of all the shoreland, floodplain and wetland zoning maps, 2) updated Wisconsin Wetland Inventory (WWI) and 3) the Map Modernization project to update FEMA FIRM floodplain boundaries countywide. The modernization of the shoreland and floodplain zoning maps is being conducted under a contract with SEWRPC. The updated WWI is a collaborative effort with the WDNR and SEWRPC. The floodplain Map Modernization project is collaboration with the LIO, SEWRPC, WDNR, local governments and FEMA. The FEMA FIRM and Wisconsin Wetland Inventory projects were both completed in 2007. The floodplain maps for Ozaukee County were adopted by the Ozaukee County Board of Supervisors and are on posted on the County's website at: <http://www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/landinfo/Floodplain/Index.htm>. Several GIS data layers have been completed as part of the Comprehensive Plan for Ozaukee County: 2035. Work continued on the Historical Orthophotography project to convert historical aerial photographs into GIS data layers. Mile marker mapping was developed for the Ozaukee Interurban Trail and distributed to all local emergency management agencies. Staff assisted the Public Health Department in generating a water quality model for a sanitary survey / beach monitoring at the City of Port Washington North Beach. The sanitary survey and water quality modeling were published in early 2008.

OZAUKEE COUNTY PARKS, NATURAL AREAS / OPEN SPACE, AND TRAILS HAWTHORN HILLS PARK / HERBERT H. PETERS YOUTH CAMP

Ozaukee County youth groups reserved 27 weekends and 3 weekdays during the year. Revenue for 2007 equals \$1,850. Compared with 2006, reservations were down by 5 weekends and \$1,000 in 2007. Three reservations were cancelled and were not rescheduled.

LION'S DEN GORGE NATURE PRESERVE

In 2007, the Department, in conjunction with the Highway Department, continued to implement the park master plan. The Department worked with several Eagle Scout volunteers to construct the following phase II projects: 1) several split rail fences at the top of the staircase and vista overlooking the Gorge and Lake Michigan and 2) two small bridges along *Bluff Trail* and *Trillium Trek* to span over a waterway/wetland. The Department also completed the necessary permitting with the WDNR, County, Town of Grafton and Ozaukee Washington Land Trust conservation easement for the construction of the phase II clear-span bridge over the side ravine through the Lion's Den Gorge to connect the *Bluff Trail* with the main trail network. Construction work by the Highway Department began at the end of 2007. The Department also worked to establish revised rules to expand the deer hunting season in 2007. Water quality monitoring and posting at the beach continued in 2007 as part of the BEACH Act. There were two advisories and one closure issued for Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve beach in 2007.

OZAUKEE ICE CENTER / CARLSON PARK

In 2007, there were discussions between Ozaukee County and the Ozaukee Ice Association about adding a second sheet of ice and taking over the facilities and land from Ozaukee County.

TENDICK NATURE PARK

The Tendick Nature Park shelter revenue was \$370 with 6 reservations in 2007. In this second year of operation, the revenue was up by \$130 with 3 additional reservations. Also, the Tendick family donated a gazebo for the park and the Department coordinated with the Highway Department to move and install the gazebo near the pond. Also, a matching handicapped accessible ramp was constructed. It is anticipated that the gazebo would be promoted for wedding reservations in 2008. In addition, 36 concrete tee pads (2 at each of the 18 holes) were added to the disc golf course in 2007.

VIRMOND PARK

Virmond Park had a total of 25 reservations and revenue of \$1,540. Compared to 2006, reservations were up by 1 with an associated revenue increase of \$20.00.

WAUBEDONIA PARK

In 2007, there were 27 reservations for the park with revenue of \$1,370. Camping permits revenue was an additional \$2,350.00 and the sale of firewood resulted in \$548.00 of revenue. Total revenue for Waubedonia Park was \$4,268, an \$837 decrease in revenue from 2006.

OZAUKEE INTERURBAN TRAIL (www.interurbantrail.us)

The Department continued to coordinate with the Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council, Ozaukee County Tourism Council and four associated committees, namely the Sustainability Committee, Rules and Ordinance Committee, Trail Promotions Committee and Trailside Facilities Committee. The Trail Advisory Council met five times in 2007. Work continued on the Trail Improvement Project / bridge over CTH W and I-43. In early 2007, a negotiation with the WisDOT and Bloom Consultants resulted in a July State LET for the bridge portion of the overall project. The State LET resulted in only one bid that was nearly twice the budget. Given the bid results for the concrete post-tensioned bridge, it was recommended to pursue an Independent Cost Analysis for this structure and an alternative structure type. In December 2007, work was completed on the Independent Cost Analysis, conducted by CTE engineers, to evaluate the current concrete bridge structure and a pre-fabricated steel truss structure. The Independent Cost Analysis established that a pre-fabricated steel truss structure could be built within the existing budget for the Trail Improvement Project. The Trail Advisory Council continued to receive donations and pledges toward the re-bidding of the project. Also, the Department, in conjunction with the Trail Advisory Council, continued to assist the City of Port Washington in implementing a WisDOT Multi-modal Transportation Enhancement grant for the Ozaukee Interurban Trail. The City of Port Washington, Ozaukee County and the Trail Advisory Council were approved for a \$150,000 Trail Improvement Project, which will include a railroad underpass and a significant off-road trail extension on both the south and north sides of the City. The WisDOT grant will pay for 80% of the total project costs with the City of Port Washington providing the local 20% matching funds. The Department also assisted the Trail Advisory Council in developing an *Ozaukee Trailside Birding Guide*. The Trail Advisory Council privately raised over \$13,000.00 in funds for the development and printing of the Guide. The Guide was completed at the end of 2007 with 10,000 copies being delivered in early 2008. Several partnerships were formed with other agencies and non-profit organizations to provide educational signage for the Trail kiosks including: water quality (Milwaukee River Basin Partnership) and Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail (WDNR Bureau of Endangered Resources). Work continued on the enhancement, operation and maintenance of the Ozaukee Interurban Trail, in conjunction with the Highway Department, local municipalities and the Trail Advisory Council. Several Eagle Scout projects were completed including a new Trail Kiosk in the Village of Belgium. Vegetation management along the County maintained portion of the Trail occurred four times in 2007. The Department also contracted to fix pavement along several stretches in the Town of Belgium. Three group use permits were issued for events along the Trail that generated \$150 in revenue including: the Pig-to-Pig Walk, Tour de Cure and Miller Lite Ride for the Arts. An Adopt-a-Trail program was initiated to assist with garbage clean-up along the Trail and a Hazard Report Form was created to notify local governments and the County of maintenance issues along the Trail. Both the forms are located on the Trail website. Staff maintained and updated for the Ozaukee Interurban Trail website, www.interurbantrail.us. Work continued with the Ozaukee County Tourism Council and other partners to market the Trail including coordination with Milwaukee and Sheboygan Counties. A new Trail map was produced and distributed in 2007. Also, several automated trail counters were purchased in 2007.

SNOWMOBILE TRAILS (www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/parks)

At the end of 2007, a completely new and revised snowmobile trails map, which included all the snowmobile trails and clubs in Ozaukee County, was developed and 3,000 copies printed.

NATURAL AREAS / OPEN SPACE

The Department worked with the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust on the potential acquisition of the Squires Country Club property for a conversion to a natural area / wildlife habitat preserve.

Thank you for your support of our many initiatives and projects.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew T. Struck, Director
Department of Planning and Parks