



## RESOLUTION #2023-80

### ADOPTION OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE VERNON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2023-2024

**WHEREAS**, Vernon County has contracted with Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission for the creation of the Vernon County Comprehensive Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 66.1001 (4)(a) of Wisconsin Statutes requires the governing body of the local government unit to adopt written procedures designed to foster public participation, including open discussions, communication programs, information services, and public meetings for which advance notice is provided, in every stage in the preparation of the updated comprehensive plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vernon County Board of Supervisors wishes to offer all citizens, businesses, other units of government, and other parties a range of opportunities to participate through the planning process in a meaningful way to shape the future of the County; now therefore be it,

**RESOLVED**, that the Vernon County Board of Supervisors does hereby adopt the attached Public Participation Plan for the creation of the Vernon County Comprehensive Plan 2023-2024.

Submitted to the County Board for consideration on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

Aye 4 Nay 0 Absent 1 Abstain 0

Alycarrn Taylor, Finance Committee Chair

#### VERNON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Aye: 18 Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 1



I, J. Pedretti, County Clerk of Vernon County, Wisconsin DO  
HEREBY CERTIFY that the above is a true and correct copy of the  
action taken by the Vernon County Board of Supervisors at the  
meeting of December 21, 2023, as indicated in transcription taken  
personally by me.

12/21/2023

/s/ J. Pedretti, Vernon County Clerk

(Seal)

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

## for the Creation of the Vernon County Comprehensive Plan 2023-2024

### 1. Introduction

Section 66.1001(4)(a) of Wisconsin Statutes requires the governing body of the local government unit to adopt written procedures designed to foster public participation, including open discussions, communication programs, information services, and public meetings for which advance notice is provided, in every stage in the preparation of the updated comprehensive plan. These written procedures contained within this Public Participation Plan have been developed to meet this requirement. This Plan will guide public participation throughout the County's Comprehensive Planning Update Process.

This Public Participation Program offers all citizens, businesses, other units of government, and other parties a range of opportunities to participate through the planning process in a meaningful way to shape the future of the County. Effective public input is critical for the success of this planning process because it is the citizens, businesses, and other organizations that will experience the results of the objectives, policies, goals and programs of the Comprehensive Plan in the future.

The participation program is designed to be inclusive. It encourages people to participate in the process and to maximize the effectiveness of their contributions. The opportunities are open to everyone.

Our public participation process will:

- Ensure all planning decisions are open to public comment;
- Produce better planning decisions;
- Support and add credibility to all County decision-making processes
- Provide opportunities to disseminate information about the Plan and process to all segments of the County
- Strengthen the relationship between our decision makers, residents, and stakeholders

### 2. Public Participation Methods and Opportunities

Vernon County has established the following list of public participation methods and opportunities.

#### a. Open Plan Commission/Committee Meetings

Plan Commission/Committee meetings scheduled during the Vernon County Comprehensive Plan update process will have an agenda item providing the opportunity for any public comment on or regarding the Vernon County Comprehensive Plan.

#### b. Review and Distribution of the Planning Documents

During the Comprehensive Plan update process, the public may review and obtain copies of proposed, alternative, or amended elements of the County's Comprehensive Plan from the County upon request. This information may also be distributed through the County's website.

#### c. Website

The County will post on its website information related to the Vernon County Comprehensive Plan update planning process. This information may include agendas, minutes, draft plan elements, amendments, reports, maps, and photographs.

d. Written Comments

The County will always welcome and consider written comments and will respond either in writing or by public comment during public meetings and/or through the media.

e. Meeting Notices

The County will post meeting notices for each meeting and event in a timely manner at accessible locations, and the notices will meet the requirements for proper notification regarding purpose of meeting, date, time and location.

f. Public Hearing

The Comprehensive Planning Law requires local units of government to hold at least one (1) formal public hearing with a Class 2 public notice prior to adoption of a revised Comprehensive Plan resolution or ordinance. Prior to adoption of the revised Comprehensive Plan, the County will conduct this required public hearing.

g. Plan Recommendation Resolution

The Plan Commission/Committee or other body of the County that is authorized to amend the Vernon County Comprehensive Plan may recommend the adoption or amendment of the Comprehensive Plan only by adopting a resolution by a majority vote of the entire commission or other body. The vote shall be recorded in the official minutes of the committee or other body. The resolution shall refer to maps and other descriptive material that relate to one or more elements of a comprehensive plan. Upon adoption of the plan amendment, the Plan and its resolution shall be distributed by the County to recipients listed in Section 66.1001(4)(b) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

h. Plan Adoption by Ordinance

No comprehensive plan that is recommended for adoption or amendment may take effect until the County Board enacts an ordinance that adopts the comprehensive plan or amendment. Upon adoption of this ordinance, it shall be filed with all the entities specified in Section 66.1001(4)(b) of the Statutes.

i. Other

Planning is a continuous process that does not end with the adoption of a Comprehensive Plan. Since new issues and unforeseen circumstances will always arise, the County may amend its Comprehensive Plan with proper public input and in accordance with County policies and State Statutes at any time.

**3. Adoption**

Vernon County adopted this Public Participation Plan on this 21 day of December, 2023.

  
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Vernon County Board Chair

  
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Vernon County Clerk