

**Town of Onalaska
Visioning Meeting Results
April 6, 2004**

GROUP A: Nametags "1 & 8"

TRANSPORTATION

- (6) Safety for people and children walking/bicycling on roads on Brice Prairie
- (4) Hwy 35 – 4 lanes
- (4) County roads on Brice Prairie – Cty XX-OT have a bicycle lane
- (4) Create a frontage road for church, omni center, YMCA YWCA, pool
- (3) Upgrade those intersections that are substandard – OT and Holmen Drive
- (2) Overpass 3rd road to prairie towards Briggs Road
- (2) Intersection 35 & Z needs a turning lane onto the prairie out of the line of traffic.
- (1) Access to bike trails
- (1) Updating main roadways, swamp road – bike lane?, Brice Prairie
- (1) Midway intersection

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- (7) Explore the use of purchase of development rights to maintain open space and reduce tax load on residential.
- (4) Encourage sustainable tourism based business
- (2) Multi-family – affordable in compact areas on Brice Prairie
- (2) For new housing – only allow upper end housing to minimize tax burden on people, perhaps “retirement condos” where children are not present
- (2) Create a stormwater utility
- (1) Type of housing should be in zones - single family, multi-apartment, etc.
- (1) Industry in corridor between Onalaska and Holmen
- (1) Everybody is for zoning except as it applies to them
- (0) Sewer on Brice Prairie
- (0) Purchase of dev. Rights
- (0) Sewer and water on Prairie and County S

NATURAL, AGRICULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

- (5) Protect ground water by managing stormwater
- (4) Develop bike trail to include more area i.e. – Halfway Creek, Holland to Black River.
- (4) Preservation of wetland areas – particular around Midway, Sand Lake Creek area
- (4) Preserve fresh water, air and min. sound pollution by not allowing polluting industries
- (4) Protect Midway swamp

- (3) Camping, recreational area on Brice Prairie with access to bike trail
- (2) Protect farming
- (1) Allow farmers to farm
- (1) Open spaces set aside as farmland
- (1) Preserve some public access to waterways. Township should purchase portion of field by
metalics parking lot and reserve unpaved parking/park for boats, trucks, etc.
- (0) Preserve open spaces though creating parklands
Apply for state and federal grants
Costs less in taxes than der. Housing
Local fundraising efforts
- (0) Don't import animal waste to township
- (0) Access to trails provided
- (0) Improve public access to public lands, refuge, bike trail, Black River
- (0) Protection of Brice Prairie ground water

GROUP B: Nametages "3 & 9"

TRANSPORTATION

- (3) Extend/incorporate shared ride taxi concept to township
- (2) Road with bridge over tracks on Brice Prairie to relieve traffic problems
- (1) More limited access to highway system north and south
- (1) Problem with Hwy 35 Riders Club Road intersection
- (1) More bike trails

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- (3) Maintain fine level of town services
- (3) Maintain current level of services at tax rate
- (3) Industrial parks, commercial development, housing development – all in area's pre-designed (area?)
- (3) Develop areas for senior housing/assisted living
- (2) Keep prairie special
- (1) Promote purchase of development rights to help preserve open spaces

NATURAL, AGRICULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

- (3) Preserve bluffs/views
- (3) Develop a center for tourism on Brice Prairie that includes historical, archaeological, recreational, DNR, fish and wildlife
- (3) Encourage tourism using the refuge and rivers
- (3) Maintain open space for hiking and hunting
- (2) Encourage new uses of farmland for orchards, berry farms, farmers markets, tree farms, etc.
- (1) Respect historic buildings and sites for future
- (1) Freedom to farm
- (1) If move next to a farm – expect farm "smells"
- (0) Eliminate burn barrels

GROUP C: Nametags "10 & 6"

TRANSPORTATION

- (8) Road safety – L access on/off Hwy 35; L intersection in Midway
- (4) Bike trails for safety
- (2) Maintain great upkeep of roads (snow and upkeep)
- (1) Fix intersections in Midway. 4-way stops near Kerry's or Roman Corner Bldg
- (0) Land for roads

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- (4) Ensure growth and development does not negatively impact the quality of life we have come to expect in town
- (3) Ensure that development is compatible with infrastructure and does not present tax burden to provide additional services to support development
- (3) Purchase development rights for fairness
- (2) Keep costs down – especially taxes
- (2) Maintain services control tax
- (1) Light controls on new commercial developments
- (1) Why make lots bigger then talk about preserving farm lands
- (1) Preserve ag land
- (0) Land for industry
- (0) If growth keeps up, limit size of property to build on – make it larger.
- (0) Define level of industrial or commercial growth
- (0) Rezone manufactured homes; location, foundation, lot size

NATURAL, AGRICULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

- (6) Maintain groundwater/drinking water quality
- (6) Preserve the integrity of natural resources and open space. Integrated access bike trail to neighborhoods
- (5) Maintain wildlife areas
- (5) Maintain access to lake/river
- (2) Eliminate burn barrels
- (1) Land for parks
- (0) Recreation department established
- (0) Utilize view of water and bluffs
- (0) Coordinate rec with village/city

GROUP D: Nametags "4 & 7"

TRANSPORTATION

- (5) Focus development to and need of improvement /maintenance of so many roads, thus less taxes
- (2) Wide shoulders on roads to accommodate bikers safety, to cut down on pollution from motor vehicles. Let people bike to work safely.
- (2) Widen shoulders on some county roads
- (1) Any industrial development should be as close to the major highways to reduce pollution for smog. These developments should also be close to transport.
- (1) 4 way stop sign in Midway
- (1) Highway Z & 35 intersection needs to be updated. Hwy light illuminating - this intersection is in wrong location.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- (3) Look at opportunities of PDR & TDR to allow win/win growth for larger land owners and other residents.
- (2) Set aside areas for nature plantings. Trees, grasses, weeds that are natural to area (not foreign, invasive plant) to support wild life, birds, butts, trees, frogs, etc.
- (0) Keep taxes low by not developing areas that will require significant
- (0) Any industrial development should be as close to the major highways to reduce pollution for smog. These developments should also be close to rail transport.
- (0) Keep development near current infrastructure which would be much less costly (taxes)
- (0) Growth should be limited to light industrial type development
- (0) Consider simply the cost of "connecting" each individual home to incoming sewer/water vs. PDR/TDR
- (0) Keep bluff development down

NATURAL, AGRICULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

- (3) Keep bluffs development free. Keep land on "S" across from Menards natural. Brice Prairie to use PDR to keep remaining farms and large acreage undeveloped.
- (2) Natural resources should be stressed and recreational activities be coordinated to protect these resources.
- (2) Continue growth on bike and hike trails
- (2) Plot areas of green space and parks
- (1) Educate people to mow less lawn and do natural plantings. Also educate people to identify and destroy invasive plants i.e. multiflora rose, purple/obsestrife, etc.
- (0) Understand the income benefits of the recreation area of Brice Prairie area to all of La Crosse County.
- (0) Allow neighborhoods with nice neat clotheslines to cut down on electricity use – rather than forbidding such things as natural, environmentally safe clothes drying.

- (0) Plant green spaces (many acreages) of trees, plants natural to birds, butterflies, etc. And/or leave areas already natural.

GROUP E: Nametags 5 & 2

TRANSPORTATION

- (4) Heavy traffic of trucks on Cty Hwy S – would like to limit
- (4) Improvement to bike trail
- (2) Road expansion throughout township
- (1) The stop light on OT and HWY 35 is GREAT! Consider more.
- (1) 4-way stop sign at Kerry's Corner PLEASE

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- (3) Control the excessive urban growth and try to maintain green space.
- (3) I know when public sewer is going in at Brice Prairie - the day after I put in my new sewer system ha.ha. Seriously, should I put in a new sewer next year?
- (1) I would like to see planning re: light industry and new housing. It feels like we're growing too fast.
- (0) People I know in other parts of La Crosse County think our trash facilities and services are much better than what they have.
- (0) What is the ratio on Brice Prairie of "new housing" vs. established housing vs. farmland vs. "swamp" (non-usable)
- (0) Need light industrial areas

NATURAL, AGRICULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

- (4) What do with green spaces taxes
- (2) Land locked land what to do
- (2) Land use rights
- (3) Lane use rights