

# VI. UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## INTRODUCTION

In this era of smart growth and tight budgets, many communities are scrutinizing broad policy decisions concerning infrastructure investment. The economic cost of building new roads and sewers and other infrastructure far away from existing facilities is prohibitive and causes communities to rethink traditional development patterns. This element of the plan is critical to the community's smart growth objectives, as local governments have the ability to control or direct growth through infrastructure investment. The Platteville community is committed to making efficient use of existing infrastructure and ensuring that new development has adequate access to existing community facilities, including parks, schools and libraries. This section of the plan includes the community facilities inventory and the goals, objectives and recommendations.

## VISION STATEMENT

*By 2021, Platteville will provide park and recreational opportunities in proximity to residential development. The community will have adequate facilities for emergency and government agencies to promote health and education for all age groups. Growth of all facilities and utilities will be coordinated to match growth of City and Town. Transit service (bus) will transport people to and from our facilities (downtown, parks, etc.).*

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

*Provide for the cost-effective coordination of utility systems with future growth in the community.*

- Plan for the orderly extension of City utilities.
- Ensure adequate capacity for future growth.
- Avoid development in areas not easily served by City utilities.

*Provide for the coordinated development of community facilities, including emergency services and government facilities, parks and recreational facilities, schools, child care, health care/dental, and cultural heritage, to match the changing needs of the community population.*

- Plan for the development of new facilities in advance of anticipated growth.
- Coordinate new facilities with areas of future growth in the community (north and south growth areas).

*Maintain an efficient and responsive parks system and provide outdoor recreational opportunities to all citizens of the community.*

- Plan for, and set aside sufficient park land to reflect the recreation needs of neighborhood areas and the community at large.

## POLICIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### Sanitary Sewer System

Platteville is served by an efficient and well-managed utility system. The City recently completed a Sewer Service Area study to identify future capacity needs.

### Water Treatment and Distribution

The existing well system is capable of pumping up to 2 million gallons of water per day, which is adequate to serve projected growth in the City over the next 20 years. The Platteville water and sewer utility routinely monitors drinking water. The quality of the treated water is safe and meets or exceeds federal and state requirements.

### Development Guidelines

The City and Town desire to grow in an orderly, efficient pattern, with denser development in and adjacent to the City limits. New development in the City and Town should be coordinated with new infrastructure to ensure the most efficient provision of service:

- The City will not extend sanitary sewer or water outside of the corporate limits without an annexation agreement.
- Extend public water, sanitary and storm sewer to logical infill areas to encourage residential growth at appropriate locations.
- Locate new development that requires urban services within the City limits, where it has access to sewer, water and stormwater.
- Adopt Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance - new development cannot be approved in advance of the public facilities necessary to serve it.
- Guide new City growth to areas that are most efficiently served with utilities (south of City).

### Future Capacity of Utilities

There are no current problems with the capacity of existing utilities, but the City and Town should:

- Continue to monitor capacity of utility systems as part of capital improvement planning.
- Locate development in areas in the Town that can be efficiently served by septic systems.
- Develop a stormwater utility.
- Develop an erosion control and stormwater ordinance (Town and City).
- Complete an impact fee analysis for City services and infrastructure as permitted under Wisconsin Statutes.

### Community Facilities

There are several community facilities in need of expansion over the next several years. Recommendations include:

- Explore new location for police department to meet growing space needs.
- Encourage the private development of additional cemetery space, as a space problem will exist within the next ten years.
- Explore a more formal arrangement between the City and Town regarding public safety, specifically police services, as the Town grows with the development of the bypass.

- Acquire and reserve land for facilities years in advance.
- Develop a community center with both youth and adult activities, including areas for study and internet access.
- Encourage the sensible development of retirement communities and assisted living centers.
- Require adequate parking for all new public facilities.
- Explore the construction of a new or upgraded Town Hall and maintenance facility.

### Parks and Recreation

Parks and open space represent one of the key assets in the Platteville region. The City and Town should seek to preserve these areas and:

- Continue to work with the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and the Platteville School District on making University and school district recreation facilities as available as possible to the general public. Joint efforts by all entities (City, Town, University, School District) should be encouraged in order to maximize recreational resource potential while minimizing duplication.
- Continue to try to secure state and federal grants and other forms of assistance for park and recreation expansion and development.
- Continue to work with public agencies (WDNR) and local civic organizations whenever possible to make full use of available human and capital resources for future park system improvements.
- Encourage multiple use of public facilities to provide for efficiency and to make the best use of these facilities.
- Continue to require compliance with the parkland dedication or fee-in-lieu-of-land payment as outlined in City of Platteville Subdivision Regulations. Periodically review the dollar amount of fees required in lieu of the land donation.

## **COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND UTILITIES INVENTORY**

Platteville houses a number of community facilities that contribute to the quality of life in the region. Utilities and community facilities include a broad range of public functions, ranging from sewage treatment to cultural and social services. Below is an inventory of Platteville's utility and community facilities. Figure 6.1 illustrates existing community facilities.

### Public Safety

The Platteville Police Department includes 21 sworn officers, responsible for crime investigation, arrests, prosecution, community education, crime prevention, traffic and parking enforcement, animal control, assistance to citizens and communication duties. The Police Station is located on Mineral Street. Both Grant County and the Platteville Police Departments serve the Town of Platteville. The City department responds to the Town on a first responder basis and due to proximity, City officers also respond to routine calls. The Department administers dispatch and law enforcement functions. Current facilities and services meet existing City and Town needs. The Platteville Fire Department includes 60 firefighters, including the fire chief, 3 assistant chiefs, a full-time fire inspector/equipment custodian, a Departmental Secretary-Treasurer, 5 Captain positions and 13 engineers.

The Department serves both the City and Town of Platteville and other surrounding Townships with fire protection and rescue services. The service area includes 216 square miles outside of the City limits. The fire station is located on Main Street.

The Platteville Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) team serves over 14,000 residents of the City and Town of Platteville and the surrounding Townships of Ellenboro, Smelzer, Lima, Harrison, Elk Grove and Belmont. The Platteville EMS District encompasses 216 square miles. The EMS team responds to all requests for emergency services, regardless of where the call originates. Duties include stand-by service at community events, community education and emergency services. There are two ambulances and approximately twenty emergency medical technicians, all of whom are paid volunteers, with the exception of the Director, who is full-time. The EMS also employs one part-time maintenance person and one part-time custodian. Billing services are currently contracted out of house at an approximate annual cost of \$25,000. Approximately 800 runs are made each year and the majority of runs are within the City limits.

The Platteville EMS, Fire Department and Platteville Police Department First Responders are dispatched by Platteville Police Department telecommunicators.

### Social Services

The Platteville Food Pantry serves residents of the City of Platteville. Responsibilities include preparation of food bags, provision of household items to needy families and client assistance.

The City of Platteville owns two cemeteries and is responsible for the maintenance and administration for Hillside/Greenwood Cemeteries. As noted in the most recent City Budget, the current supply of sites is adequate for the next ten years.

The Platteville Public Library, located at 65 South Elm, was recently renovated. Library staff provide information access and user services in support of the personal, educational and professional needs of residents.

The Senior Center provides social, nutritional, educational, recreational and health-related services to older individuals in Platteville. Senior Center goals include strengthening the relationship between the Center and the University and the public school system.

The City's Taxi Service provides shared ride service to approximately 20,000 riders each year. The Platteville Cab Service has served Platteville with shared ride taxi service since 1983.

Day care services are provided by private and church-based child care centers in the City of Platteville. These include Kids Korner Day Care and St. Mary's Parish Day Care. There are also a number of private day care providers in the Town of Platteville.

### Healthcare

Southwest Health Service provides hospital and medical services to the area. Currently, Southwest Health has a staff of approximately 250 employees. The hospital facility is located at 250 Camp Street in Platteville. Services include 24-hour emergency care, diagnostic care and bariatric surgery. Other non-surgical services include physical, occupational and speech therapies. The Hospital also provides a birthing center with birthing classes. Southwest Health operates a Senior Services Center at 808 Washington Street, in Cuba City. This facility offers a variety of behavioral-related services as well as blood pressure screening, exercise programs, memory-screening services and a meals-at-home program. A new hospital facility is being planned for a 30-acre site on Eastside Road, near the future Hwy 151 bypass. The property has been purchased and preliminary project planning began in March 2003.

### Culture and Recreation

The Mining Museum and Rollo Jamison Museum, located at 405 East Main Street, preserve and promote awareness of the history of southwest Wisconsin.

The Rountree Gallery, located at 385 East Main Street, provides and maintains display space for local and regional artists to exhibit and sell visual art.

### Parks and Recreation

The City's Park and Recreation Department is responsible for the maintenance of parks and other recreational facilities, the provision of recreational programs and activities, and the sponsorship of special events for youths and families. There are 15 parks located throughout the City (see attached map). The Department also maintains the City's Pool or Family Aquatic Center and provides swimming opportunities to the community.

### Education

Platteville School District serves the City and Town of Platteville and includes the following facilities:

O.E. Gray Early Learning Center, 110 West Adams (3-5 year old children)  
Neal Wilkins Elementary School, 455 Broadway  
Westview Elementary School, 1205 Camp Street  
Platteville Middle School, 40 East Madison Street  
Platteville High School, 710 East Madison Street  
Number of Personnel: 224 FTE

1,664 students were enrolled in the school district for the 2000-01 school year. Enrollment is expected to fall to 1,441 by the 2005-06 school year. The district stands at a mid-point of a twelve year enrollment decline that began in 1994. Total enrollment will drop by 22 percent or about 400 students over that 12 year time period. See Figure 6.2 for the Platteville School District Boundary.

### University of Wisconsin-Platteville

The UW-Platteville is part of the University of Wisconsin System and is the largest institution of higher education in southwest Wisconsin. The Campus includes approximately 335 acres in the City of Platteville. The campus boundary was recently expanded to the northwest and to the east. The University intends to acquire properties within the approved boundary as they become available. Planned parcels include additional parking, expanded open space and possible multi-purpose areas. The University also has three properties that are not adjacent to campus. The 40-acre Pioneer Prairie Farm is located six miles southeast of campus and provides hands-on experience for students and new and improved facilities. The Mound is another noncontiguous property, located on 90 acres of land. The Mound includes the world's largest "M", created in 1937 by Wisconsin School of Mines students.

Current enrollment for Fall 2003 at the University is 5,650 students of 623 FTE's. The University is in a period of steady growth that will result in an estimated 5,775 students by the year 2007 or an FTE count of 657.

### Public Works

The Town of Platteville includes approximately 40 miles of roads of which 32 are asphalt and 8 gravel. Town road maintenance generally represents nearly 50 percent of the total Town budget each year. This includes a full-time patrolman responsible for road maintenance, plowing and mowing and a part-time assistant.

The City of Platteville includes 43 miles of roads, managed by the City Street Department. The existing Highway 151 will be added to the city street system after the bypass is completed.

### Town Administration

The Town of Platteville is governed by a Town Chairman and two supervisors. Other administrative positions include a Town Clerk, Town Treasurer and an Assessor who is retained through a contract with the Town.

### City Administration

The City of Platteville is governed by a 7-member common council with a City Manager form of administration. The administration also includes an attorney, clerk, treasurer and assessor.

### Water

The City of Platteville's water source is supplied by groundwater pumped from three wells out of the sandstone aquifer. Two wells are located at the Main Plant on Valley Road and the third is on Camp Street next to Westview Park. All wells are between 900 and 1000 feet below ground. The water system also includes four storage tanks. There is a 500,000 gallon ground storage facility and 2 elevated tanks of 500,000 and 400,000 gallon capacities. Total storage capacity is 1.4 million gallons. The average daily water usage is 840,000 gallons. The range of water usage varies during the year between 562,000 and 1,296,000 gallons per day. The existing well system is capable of pumping a maximum of approximately 2 million gallons of water per day.

The system consists of approximately 279,000 feet of water main and is divided into two pressure zones with a booster station providing the pumping capability for the transition from the low to high pressure system. There is 7% unaccounted water loss in the system.

### Sanitary Sewer

The sanitary sewer collection system consists of approximately 262,000 feet of sewer line (see Figure 6.3). The majority of the system is gravity with four small lift stations in the northern portion of the City. The sanitary sewer treatment plant is located on the west side of the City on Greenwood Avenue. The plant is designed to handle a flow of about 2 million gallons per day (mgd). Current flows to the plant average 1.36 mgd.

The plant is designed to handle a BOD loading of 3230 lbs. per day. The BOD's average 2300 per day depending on milk plant operations.

Leakage and infiltration into the collection system is estimated at 15% of flows.

### Solid Waste and Recycling

The City provides solid waste & recycling services for 1 and 2 family dwellings only. This service is on a weekly basis. Weekly curbside pickup is limited to 35 gallons and less than 50 lbs. Additional solid waste must be placed in a special "City of Platteville" marked, clear bag. The City contracts with Faherty, Inc. for solid waste and recycling services. Faherty has the capability of handling twice the current volume of waste. The waste is transported to a facility in Milan, IL with a current cell capacity of 15-20 years. Additional cells are available that would extend the landfill life for another 60-100 years.

Recycling is mandatory. Recycling is picked up on the same day as Solid Waste. The City of Platteville issues Recycling Bins for use by the 1 and 2 family dwellings. These bins are the property of the City and are to remain with the dwelling. Direct any questions to the office of the Director of Public Works at 348-9741 or e-mail [hcro-foot@centurytel.net](mailto:hcro-foot@centurytel.net).

### Storm Sewer

The storm sewer system consists of approximately 117,000 feet of pipe, 109,000 feet of ditch and 7,500 feet of channel. The majority of the City's stormwater flows through the system of pipes, channels and ditches into the Rountree Branch. Stormwater on the periphery of Platteville flows overland as well as through ditches.

### Power, Gas and Telecommunications

Electric Power and Gas are provided in Platteville by Alliant. Telephone service is provided by CenturyTel. Internet services are provided by Centurytel and Chorus/Pioneer Telecom.

### Library

The Platteville Public Library is located at 65 South Elm Street. The library underwent a \$750,000 expansion and renovation in April of 2000, which brought the facility into ADA compliance. This is the only facility in Platteville and provides an outreach and homebound service to nursing homes, assisted living facilities and other home-bound people.

<b>Platteville Community Utilities and Facilities</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Water Supply	2003-2023	Existing well system is capable of pumping up to 2 million gallons/day. Platteville water and sewer utility monitors drinking water and the quality is safe and meets or exceeds federal and state requirements.
Wastewater Disposal	N/A	City is in the process of completing a Sewer Service Area study to identify future capacity needs: Current capacity is 3230 BOD/day
Solid Waste	Beyond 2020	The City contracts with Faherty, Inc. for solid waste and recycling services. Faherty has the capability of handling twice the current volume of waste. The waste is transported to a facility in Milan, IL with a current cell capacity of 15-20 years. Additional cells are available that would extend the landfill life for another 60-100 years.
Recycling Facility	Beyond 2020	The City contracts with Faherty, Inc. for solid waste and recycling services. Faherty has the capability of handling twice the current volume of recycling materials. They are sorted and baled at Faherty's facility and shipped to end users.
Law Enforcement Facilities	N/A	The Platteville Police Department administers dispatch and law enforcement functions. Current facilities and services meet existing city and town needs. The Department will need additional space in the future as it continues to expand.
Fire Protection Facilities	2003-2008	The Platteville Fire Department serves both the City and Town of Platteville and other surrounding townships with fire protection and rescue services. Existing facilities meet current and forecasted needs. No new buildings or major equipment are anticipated for the next 5 years.
Rescue	2005	The Platteville Emergency Medical Service (EMS) serves the City and surrounding seven townships in Grant County. There are currently 25 EMTs on staff. Additionally, the EMS employs one part-time maintenance worker (24 hours a week) and one part-time custodian (20 hours every two weeks). The EMS owns two ambulances. In terms of anticipated needs, the EMS is looking for additional building space as the current building is small and in poor repair. The EMS also wants to purchase a transport ambulance. Currently, billing is contracted out of house at annual cost of \$25,000. The EMS would like to add a part-time employee to perform these billing duties in-house, to save on costs.
Schools	2020	The Platteville School District serves the City and Town of Platteville. Existing school facilities meet current and forecasted town and city needs.
Parks and Recreational Facilities	N/A	There are fifteen parks located throughout the city.
Stormwater Management		Existing facilities meet current and forecasted city and town needs.
Telecommunication	N/A	Existing facilities adequately meet city and town needs.
Health Care	2005	A new hospital facility is being planned on a 30 acre site on Eastside Road, near the future Hwy 151 Bypass. The property has been purchased and preliminary planning for the project began in of March 2003. It is anticipated that the new, expanded facility will be complete by 2005.
Library	N/A	Existing facilities adequately meet city and town needs due to a recent \$750,000 expansion and renovation project.