

Chapter 1 Recommended Changes

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OVERALL GOALS

1. Promote the preservation of rural, open and agricultural lands in the Town to sustain a rural economy and lifestyle.
2. Preserve the integrity of the Town's natural environment - including surface and ground water, woodlands, wetlands and other resources.
3. Encourage a low-density development pattern to protect open lands throughout the Town; directing development to Leopolis, Lyndhurst and nearby cities and villages such as Gresham.
4. Continue to work with Shawano County and State agencies to maintain and enhance the Town's transportation system, particularly concerning the STH 29 access control and improvement project.
5. Reserve the future STH 29 and CTH U interchange area for high-quality economic uses.
6. Work with other communities and the County on regional economic development based on the unique assets of the County.
7. Promote high quality and well-maintained housing.
8. Cooperate with other units of government to ensure efficient delivery of services, consistent with the rural atmosphere of the Town.

The members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee met to review and revise as needed the 2008 Comp Plan. The data used (shown in charts and graphs) to develop the plan was produced by Vanderwalle and Associates and seems mainly to be generic. The data and trends in the data are basically unchanged since the original plan was developed and therefore were not updated in this plan. Current statistics can be found on the Town of Herman web site, (townofherman-shawano.com).

The key take home message was not much has changed or will change in the foreseeable future. Generally, populations are remaining the same in the town of Herman and in Shawano county. Family farms are still declining, and are being replaced by a few "mega farms" or "hobby farms". Many people are willing to drive HY 29, 45 or 47 to Green Bay, Wausau, or Appleton to work because they enjoy the rural character of the Town of Herman. There is not much high tech work in the town of Herman so people with those skills tend to move to larger urban areas.

The committee did note some possible variations and areas the town may be able to engage in a positive manner.

- There seems to be a growing interest in the arts and a growth in the number of art business.
- With an aging population, the town is and can be a good place to retire.
- With the continued growth of the internet, the need for high speed internet access is becoming more important.
- A Town web site could be extremely useful in supporting and promoting a wide range of issues that are discussed in the following chapters.

The goals developed from the plan remain valid.