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## 9.0 Intergovernmental Cooperation

There are two significant areas of Intergovernmental Cooperation between the City and adjacent Towns. This includes the Chetek Area Fire Department, and the Lake Chetek Lake Association.

Other than these two areas, historically the City has had limited interactions with the adjacent Towns.

There are a number of other significant interactions that are not formalized in operating agreements, including the City Library, for which over half of the users are non-residents

The library has been significantly impacted by non-resident usage. While the Village is compensated for Polk County residents, all construction costs are borne by Village residents, even though they compose only 20% to 31% of library users.

## 9.1 Intergovernmental Meeting

On August 28, 2005, plan commission members, elected officials and City staff gathered at the Chetek Senior Center to discuss issues identified as part of each communities planning process. Participating communities included the City of Chetek and the Towns of Dovre, Sioux Creek and Prairie Lake. The Town of Chetek was invited, but did not attend. To begin the meeting, communities shared key issues that related to other communities. These included:

### City of Chetek

- 1) Improve Lake Usage
  - i) Reduce Bacteria Concerns
  - ii) Improve/Create Park on Lake (increase Lake Access)
  - iii) Work with Hydroflytes
- 2) Consider creating trail system
- 3) Increase potential for Industrial Development
  - i) Rail Access is a key
- 4) Industrial Land – need to increase amount
  - i) Evaluate a new industrial park
  - ii) Develop a second interchange
- 5) Preserve Lake Chetek
  - i) Improve efforts with the Lake Protection Committee
  - ii) Address Non-Point Issues
  - iii) Lower Phosphorus Use
- 6) Provide for Long Term Care and Improvement of Dam
  - i) Coordinate with Towns, Lake Protection District, County
  - ii) Develop Funding Opportunities for operations and management
- 7) Increase the number of families

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- 8) WWTP – determine future location

**Town of Dovre**

- 1) Limited Recreational areas on the Water
- 2) Not adjacent to the City
- 3) Concerned about Extraterritorial zoning/subdivision controls by the City.

**Town of Sioux Creek**

- 1) Vision
  - i) Rural Qualities
  - ii) Prime Ag
  - iii) Wildlife Habitat
  - iv) Dark Skies
  - v) Affordable Single Family Homes
- 2) Surface Water Quality
  - i) Lake Chetek and Red Cedar River
  - ii) Chain of Lakes
  - iii) Impact of WWTP
- 3) Annexation/Extraterritorial Subdivision/Zoning
- 4) Interchange Development
- 5) Affordable Housing – Higher Density/Smaller lots –
  - i) Possible “I” Corridor – with Municipal Sewer and Water
- 6) Trails – possible snowmobile connection

**Prairie Lake**

- 1) Trails
- 2) Preserve Rural Landscape – Character
  - i) Possibly Clustering
- 3) Concerned about City Expansion
- 4) Joint Efforts on Development

**Town of Chetek**

- 1) Trails – Bike-Ped

Then areas of existing cooperation were identified, including the School District and the Joint Fire/Ambulance Services.

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## 9.2 Existing - Areas of Cooperation

- 1) School District
- 2) Joint Fire/Ambulance Services

Finally, future Areas of Cooperation were identified, and ranked by members voting. The number of votes received follows each area.

## 9.3 Future - Areas of Cooperation

- 1) Sewer District – Six votes
  - i) Municipal
  - ii) On-Site
    - a) Need to communicate with Towns
    - b) Include Towns in Conversation.
    - c) Conservation Design
- 2) Trails – Four Votes
  - i) City/Town of Chetek/Town of Prairie Lake
    - a) Trails in Subdivision
    - b) As part of Road Widening Projects
    - c) Possible Joint Trail Sub-Committee
    - d) We should add policy statements to Plans
- 3) Water Quality – Four Votes
  - i) Lakes
  - ii) Rivers
  - iii) Involve County
    - a) Resort Owners
    - b) Research Issues
    - c) Lake Protection Association
    - d) Work with DNR
    - e) Start the Conversation
- 4) Town Cooperation For Subdivision/Zoning – Five Votes
  - i) Form Sub-Committee
- 5) Future Expansion of City – Two Votes

## 9.4 Assessment of Future Needs

Intergovernmental relations with adjacent towns will likely not progress further until Town residents decide such actions are of benefit to their community. However, as part of the intergovernmental meeting, a number of areas of joint interest were identified.

They generally fell into two areas – growth and development related, and natural resource related.

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## 9.5 Goals, Objectives and Policies

### A. Goal Preserve Lake Chetek

1. **Objective** Work with Lake Protection Committee, County.  
**Policy** Address nonpoint issues – large concern, possible area to work with Towns and County.  
**Policy** Lower phosphorus use.
2. **Objective** Provide for the long term care and improvement of the Dam.  
**Policy** Coordinate with others – County, Lake Protection District, Town.  
**Policy** Develop funding for operations and maintenance.
3. **Objective** Increase coordination with other Economic Development Agencies.  
**Policy** Work with David Miller.  
**Policy** Identify funding incentives – be willing to use TIF creatively.

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## 10.0 Implementation

The implementation of the Plan is the most crucial element in order for the Plan to meet the desired outcomes of the principles, goals, and policies. The principles, goals, and policies provide the compass to achieving the desired outcomes. The implementation program provides the blueprint for action.

### 10.1 Implementation Priorities

**Key Issue Number One - Our Kids Matter** – Key strengths included that Chetek is a safe community, that it is a great place to raise kids, we have a great school system. A perceived weakness is a lack of youth and family activities, and a related opportunity is that the City can develop recreational opportunities for kids and families.

#### A. Goal Increase Activities in the Community for Youth and Families

1. **Objective** Create a skate park.  
**Policy** Work with Ruth Eastman.  
**Policy** Identify location.  
**Policy** Provide funding.
  
2. **Objective** Improve the Lake Usage.  
**Policy** Provide swimming lessons.  
**Policy** Provide lifeguards.  
**Policy** Reduce bacteria concerns.  
**Policy** Increase City funding for lessons/lifeguards.  
**Policy** Evaluate potential for park facility on the lake.  
**Policy** Hydroflytes – Water Ski – work with.
  
3. **Objective** Improve Biking Safety.  
**Policy** Create a trail system.  
**Policy** Develop a new Bike Safety Program
  
4. **Objective** Increase Youth Activities.  
**Policy** Increase organizational interest.  
**Policy** Increase senior actions with kids – fishing, crafts.  
**Policy** Evaluate creation of a youth soccer league.

#### B. Goal Improve Recreational Facilities

1. **Objective** Replace the tennis courts.  
**Policy** Work with the School District.
  
2. **Objective** Develop an outdoor ice rink.  
**Policy** Find location.  
**Policy** Find funding.  
**Policy** Locate working lights.

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- 3. Objective** Improve playground equipment.
  - Policy** Complete a Parks and Recreation Plan.

**Key Issue Number Two - Our Jobs Matter** – That Chetek is a great place to live was widely identified, but a recurring concern was the lack of good paying job opportunities. Also, that there was the opportunity for the City to seek out new businesses, to take advantage of the new freeway access and working with your neighbors to develop growth.

**A. Goal** Increase Potential for Industrial Development

- 1. Objective** New Rail Service needed
- Policy** Evaluate locations for new land served by Rail.
  
- 2. Objective** Increase amount of industrial land.
- Policy** Annex land.
- Policy** Develop new Industrial Park.
- Policy** Develop new interchange.
  
- 3. Objective** Develop necessary public infrastructure to support industrial development.
- Policy** Need to begin process of evaluating new WWTP – both/either for expansion or new.
- Policy** Evaluate need for new tower or pressure zone in north section of the City.
  
- 4. Objective** Increase skills of labor force.
- Policy** High School/Tech School tie in.
  
- 5. Objective** Increase coordination with other Economic Development Agencies.
- Policy** Work with David Miller.
- Policy** Identify funding incentives – be willing to use TIF creatively.

**Key Issue Number Three - Our Natural Resources Matter** – Both a strength and threat was Lake Quality. Chetek and the surrounding communities are blessed by outstanding water resources. This is clearly an issue to be proud of and to work to protect.

**A. Goal** Preserve Lake Chetek

- 1. Objective** Work with Lake Protection Committee, County.
- Policy** Address nonpoint issues – large concern, possible area to work with Towns and County.
- Policy** Lower phosphorus use.

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- 2. Objective** Provide for the long term care and improvement of the Dam.
  - Policy** Coordinate with others – County, Lake Protection District, Town.
  - Policy** Develop funding for operations and maintenance.

**B. Goal** Improve City Parks

- 1. Objective** Develop Gothum Park – possibly as an event park as City Beach.
- Policy** Coordinate with adjacent homeowners.
- Policy** Possibly improve City Park Drive for vehicle access.
- Policy** Deal with parking issues.
  
- 2. Objective** Develop Parks and Recreation Plan for Development of Park.
- Policy** Approve funding for Parks and Recreation Plan.
- Policy** Work with other groups to develop funding for park.

**C. Goal** Increase Lake Access