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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document, the 2015 *Uniform Instructions For Preparing County Land Information Plans*, sets forth the directions and minimum plan elements for county land information plans. The format of these instructions is designed to assist counties in organizing their plan layout. Background information is provided for each section, which the county may choose to retain in their own plan. Examples are included but are only intended as guides. Where the instructions ask counties to address certain required topics, this is clearly noted.

Executive Summary Directions for Plan Authors

Plans should begin with an executive summary, which explains the main components and takeaways from the plan in one page. Write for a general audience, not a technical audience. Remember that executive level decision-makers, such as county board members, may be a key audience for the executive summary. The following structure is recommended, but you may choose adapt the summary in any way you wish.

**Paragraph 1: Purpose of document.** The first paragraph is broad. It lays out what the plan is in the most general terms. Clearly state the purpose(s) of the plan right away. You are welcome to copy from the example executive summary on the next page.

**Paragraph 2: WLIP background.** As the plans are mandated by statute for participation in the WLIP, it is important to provide brief context on the program for unfamiliar readers. Again, you may use the template paragraph. You may also choose to alter the paragraph to be specific to your county’s history of WLIP funding.

**Paragraph 3: Centrality of county land information and GIS data.** Broadly describe how land records and GIS are essential to the county and county services.

**Paragraph 4: Three-year mission statement.** Include a mission statement for the land information office. A mission statement describes what an organization seeks to do. The mission statement can broadly mention your most significant projects, but details on how to achieve this mission through concrete goals and objectives should be laid out in Chapter 2.

Three-Year Mission Statements – Examples

- In the next three years, Badger County’s Land Information Office strives to be recognized for its exceptional web mapping site, gains in governmental efficiencies, and responsiveness to meeting the GIS data needs of citizens.
- The Land Information Office will provide efficient and high quality services to its residents and county departments by maintaining land records in an efficient manner, adopting standards to streamline the use of GIS data across departments, and provide services such as a more user-friendly webmapping service.
- Badger County’s Land Information Office will provide geospatial data for the county’s comprehensive planning process, inform future land use decision making, partner with county departments to integrate land records, and improve public access to land records online.

**Paragraph 5+: Summary of projects.** Recap your major projects from Chapter 2. You can use a bulleted list, a table, or perhaps list them in general terms in paragraph form.
Executive Summary – Example

About this Document. This document is a land information plan for Badger County prepared by the land information officer (LIO) and the land information council. By Wisconsin statute, “a countywide plan for land records modernization” is required for participation in the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP). The purpose of this document is twofold: 1) to meet WLIP funding eligibility requirements necessary for receiving grants and retaining fees for land information, and 2) to plan for county land records modernization in order to improve the efficiency of government and provide improved government services to businesses and county residents.

WLIP Background. The WLIP, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, is funded by document recording fees collected by register of deeds at the county-level. The program provides over $9 million annually to Wisconsin counties for the modernization of local land records. In 2014, Badger County received $__k in WLIP grants and retained a total of $__ million in local register of deeds document recording fees for land information. Beginning in 2016, WLIP Strategic Initiative grants are projected to increase the county land information budget by $50k per year.

This plan lays out how funds from grants and retained fees will be prioritized. However, as county budgets are determined on an annual basis with county board approval, this plan provides estimated figures that are subject to change and are designed to serve planning purposes only.

Land Information in Badger County. Land information is central to county operations, as many essential services rely on accurate and up-to-date geospatial data and land records. A countywide land information system supports economic development, emergency planning and response, and a host of other citizen services. The Badger County land information system integrates and enables efficient access to information that describes the physical characteristics of land, as well as the property boundaries and rights attributable to landowners.

Mission of the Land Information Office. In the next three years, Badger County’s Land Information Office strives to be recognized for its exceptional web mapping site, gains in governmental efficiencies by broadening the utilization of GIS, improvements in parcel mapping accuracy, and responsiveness to meeting the land records needs of residents.

Land Information Office Projects. To realize this mission, in the next three years, the county land information office will focus on the following projects:

1. Indexing of documents by geography in GIS
2. Countywide integration of tax/assessment data with parcel polygons
3. 100% PLSS remonumentation with survey-grade GPS coordinates
4. Expansion of the use of mobile GPS/GIS technology
5. Document imaging improvements
6. Website development and hosting for improved access to land records

The remainder of this document provides more details on Badger County and the WLIP, summarizes current and future land information projects, and reviews the county’s status in completion and maintenance of the WLIP map data layers known as Foundational Elements.
INTRODUCTION

In 1989, a public funding mechanism was created whereby a portion of county register of deeds document recording fees collected from real estate transactions would be devoted to land information through a new program called the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP). The purpose of the land information plan is to meet WLIP requirements, and aid in county planning for land records modernization.

The WLIP and the Land Information Plan Requirement

In order to participate in the WLIP, counties must meet certain requirements:

- Update the county’s land information plan at least every three years
- Meet with the county land information council to review expenditures, policies, and priorities of the land information office at least once per year
- Report on expenditure activities each year
- Submit detailed applications for WLIP grants
- Complete the annual WLIP survey
- Subscribe to DOA’s land information listserv
- Meet a June 30, 2017 deadline to post certain types of parcel information online

Any grants received and fees retained for land information through the WLIP must be spent consistent with the county land information plan. The Uniform Instructions for Preparing County Land Information Plans are designed as a template, but leave flexibility as to how counties may choose to address the minimum plan components. The county is able to include as much detail as necessary to make the planning process useful at the local level.

Act 20 and the Statewide Parcel Map Initiative

A major development for the WLIP occurred in 2013 through the state budget bill, Act 20. It directed the Department of Administration (DOA) to create a statewide digital parcel map in coordination with counties.

Act 20 also provided more revenue for WLIP grants, specifically for the improvement of local parcel datasets. The WLIP is dedicated to helping counties meet the goals of Act 20 and has proposed that funding be made available to counties in the form of Strategic Initiative grants to be prioritized for the purposes of parcel dataset improvement. For Strategic Initiative grant eligibility, counties will be required to apply WLIP funding toward achieving certain statewide objectives, specified in the form of “benchmarks.” Benchmarks for parcel data—standards or achievement levels on data quality or completeness—are determined through a participatory planning process and will be detailed in future WLIP grant applications.

County land information plans were initially updated every five years. However, as a result of Act 20, counties must update and submit their plans to DOA for approval every three years. Thus, the minimum planning horizon for these plans is three years. The plan may incorporate a planning horizon that is longer if the needs and priorities of the participants warrant.

The first post-Act 20 required update deadline for draft county land information plans is December 29, 2015. Final plans are due March 31, 2016.
 County Land Information Plan Timeline

January – April 2015
- DOA leads workgroup to update plan instructions

May 2015
- Public review and comment of draft plan instructions

June 2015
- Instructions finalized

June – December 2015
- Counties create draft land info plans

December 29, 2015
- Draft county plans complete

January – March 2016
- Plan review and approval process

March 31, 2016
- Final county land info plans due

County Land Information System History and Context

In Chapter 1 of the plan, the county should provide an overview of the county’s land records modernization efforts, dating back to when the WLIP was established in 1989 if possible. You may be brief here, or provide as much detail as desired.

Plan Participants and Contact Information

Another requirement for participation in the WLIP is the county land information council, established by legislation in 2010. The council is tasked with reviewing the priorities, needs, policies, and expenditures of a land information office and advising the county on matters affecting that office.

According to s. 59.72(3m), Wis. Stats., the county land information council is to include:
- Register of Deeds
- Treasurer
- Real Property Lister or designee
- Member of the county board
- Representative of the land information office
- A realtor or member of the Realtors Association employed within the county
- A public safety or emergency communications representative employed within the county
- County surveyor or a registered professional land surveyor employed within the county
- Other members of the board or public that the board designates

The land information council must have a role in the development of the county land information plan, and DOA requires county land information councils to approve plans. A record documenting county land information council approval should be included in the final submission of the plan to DOA.

A county may amend a plan with updates or revisions as appropriate. A digital copy of the amended plan and record of land information council approval should be sent to the WLIP.
This plan was prepared by the county LIO, the Land Information Council, and others as listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Jodi Helgeson</td>
<td>Register of Deeds, Land Information Officer</td>
<td>Adams County Land Information Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jhelgeson@co.adams.wi.us">jhelgeson@co.adams.wi.us</a></td>
<td>608-339-4206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* County Treasurer</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Adams County Land Information Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:msmith@co.adams.wi.us">msmith@co.adams.wi.us</a></td>
<td>608-333-1234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Real Property Lister</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* County Board Member</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Land Information Office Representative</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Realtor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Public Safety Officer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* County Surveyor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Land Information Council Members designated by asterisk
This chapter lists the current and future land information projects the county is currently undertaking or intends to pursue over its planning horizon. A project is defined as a temporary effort that is carefully planned to achieve a particular aim. Projects can be thought of as the means to achieving the county’s mission for its land information system.

For each project, identify:
- Project Description/Goal
- Business Drivers
- Objectives/Measure of Success
- Project Timeframes
- Responsible Parties
- Estimated Budget Information

Project planning should take into account that beginning in 2016, the WLIP plans to make available annual Strategic Initiative grants of $50k to all 72 counties, to be prioritized for the purposes of parcel dataset improvement.

If your county foresees or has major technology projects planned, list them in this chapter as a project. Note that projects may focus on one single Foundational Element, or they may touch upon several Foundational Elements.

**Project Subheadings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Project Description/Goal**
Describe the project or goal in 1-3 sentences. List the Foundational Elements impacted by the project at the end of the description.

**Business Drivers**
List the business drivers for the project, including the departments affected.

**Objectives/Measure of Success**
Describe the objective/measure of success for the project and any defined completion milestone(s).

**Project Timeframes**
Provide the start and end dates for the project, as well as any significant milestone dates.

**Responsible Parties**
List the staff responsible for the various aspects of the project.

**Estimated Budget Information**
Give an estimated budget for project costs, and the source of funding to be used. This is a projected, estimated budget to aid planning efforts. The WLIP understands that budgeting requires some flexibility. It is certainly acceptable if new funding opportunities or new projects arise after the plan is approved. Plans can also be amended to include new projects if necessary.

Individual cost information can be presented for each project, or the overall budget for all projects combined can be provided in a single table at the end of Chapter 2, as in the example on page 8.
Ongoing Costs Not Associated with a Specific Project

You may include an optional section for “Ongoing Costs,” which are costs not associated with a specific project. This may include ongoing technology expenditures like software licenses or staffing costs for general tasks like production of maps for other county departments and responding to public requests for GIS data.

Project – Example

Indexing of documents by geography in GIS

Project Description/Goal
To expand the use of document imaging and GIS to “geocode” documents to geography (such as permits) and make them available to the public via the Internet. Impacts Foundational Elements: PLSS, Parcel Mapping, and Other Layers.

Business Drivers
- County business data lacks detailed location information, making it less useful
- County land information system contains some ambiguous addresses
- Increase efficiency of Zoning Department with geocoded permits
- Call-Before-You-Dig hotline lacks detailed location information
- Need to improve routing and delivery of Social Services Department
- County surveyor need to access tie sheets in the field

Objectives/Measure of Success
- Permits 100% geocoded
- Index apps available on the county website

Project Timeframes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project start</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>May 1, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index permits</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>May 1 - June 30, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index tie sheet and other records</td>
<td>4 months</td>
<td>June 1 - Sept 30, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build apps</td>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Complete</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Dec 31, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Responsible Parties
LIO (20%), real property lister (10%), GIS contractor to input data for survey index (50% for 3 months)

Estimated Budget Information
See table below.
## Estimated Budget Information – Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Total Project Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Indexing of documents to geography in GIS</td>
<td>a. GIS technology position</td>
<td>75% of $60,000</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Company XYZ Mapping software</td>
<td>$2,000 x 5 licenses</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Countywide integration of tax/assessment data with parcel polygons</td>
<td>a. Real Property Lister position</td>
<td>25% of $60,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 100% PLSS remonumentation with survey-grade GPS coordinates</td>
<td>a. Surveyor position</td>
<td>25% of $60,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. GPS unit</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GRAND TOTAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>95,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note. These estimates are provided for planning purposes only. Budget is subject to change.
3 FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS

Counties must have a land information plan that addresses development of specific datasets or map layer groupings historically referred to as the WLIP Foundational Elements. Foundational Elements incorporate nationally-recognized “Framework Data” elements, the major data themes that serve as the backbone required by users to conduct most mapping and geospatial analysis.

In the past, Foundational Elements were selected by the Wisconsin Land Information Board under the guiding idea that program success is dependent upon a focus for program activities. Thus, the Uniform Instructions place priority on certain elements, which must be addressed in order for a county land information plan to be approved.

The list of WLIP’s Foundational Elements has evolved with each update of the county land information plan instructions. They are a guideline of what counties need to address in their plans at a minimum. As the list of layers in this document is not exhaustive, counties are welcome to insert additional layers for geospatial data categories stewarded by the county or municipalities that are of importance to local business needs.

Beyond the county’s use for planning purposes, Foundational Element information is of value to state agencies and the WLIP to understand progress in completion and maintenance of these key data layers.

**Foundational Element Subheadings**

For each layer listed under a Foundational Element, the plan should address: 1) Layer Status, 2) Custodian, 3) Maintenance, and 4) Standards.

If an element or layer does not apply to you, please state why it is not applicable.

**Foundational Element**

- **Layer**
  - **Layer Status**: Discuss progress towards completion or maintenance phase for each Foundational Element layer. Special instructions are included in some cases, as some layers may have additional information that must be included in addition to progress towards completion.
  - **Custodian**: Discuss custodial responsibility for each Foundational Element. Which office or position is responsible?
  - **Maintenance**: Discuss your long-range plan to maintain dataset currency over time as well as archive historical copies of datasets as appropriate.
  - **Standards**: Confirm your adherence to the statutory standards listed, state whether the county plans to achieve the standards listed, and in what timeframe. If the county does not plan to achieve the standards listed, discuss why. You may also identify any standards you meet or comply with that are not listed here, such as national standards or those set by professional associations.
PLSS

Public Land Survey System Monuments

Layer Status
- State progress toward completion/maintenance
- Give percent of monuments with documented accuracy
- Specify whether your PLSS corners have survey-grade coordinates (see below for definition)
- Specify whether your corners have digital tie sheets
- State whether there is a link to digital tie sheets online
- Give percentage of survey-grade corners integrated into your digital parcel layer
- Specify the status of your PLSS corners along each of the county boundaries
- Specify whether your county collaborates or plans to collaborate with neighboring counties for PLSS updates on shared county borders

Custodian

Maintenance Standards
- Statutory Standards for PLSS Corner Remonumentation
  s. 59.74, Wis. Stats. Perpetuation of section corners, landmarks.
  s. 60.84, Wis. Stats. Monuments.
  s. 236.15, Wis. Stats. Surveying requirements.
- Wisconsin County Surveyor’s Association survey-grade standard:
  Coordinates collected under the direction of a Professional Land Surveyor, in a coordinate system allowed by s. 236.18(2), and obtained by means, methods and equipment capable of repeatable 2 centimeter or better precision.

Other Geodetic Control and Control Networks

Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance Standards

Parcel Mapping

Parcel Geometries

Layer Status
- State progress toward completion/maintenance
- Specify whether 100% of the county’s parcels are available in a commonly-used GIS format
- Give projection and coordinate system used
- Note whether your parcel polygon model directly integrates tax/assessment data as parcel attributes
- Specify whether you use or plan to implement the Esri parcel fabric data model

Custodian
Maintenance Standards and Documentation
- Data Dictionary
  Confirm the presence of data dictionary in human-readable form, with thorough definitions for each element/attribute name, and explanations of any county-specific notations, particularly for attributes listed by s. 59.72(2)(a)
**Assessment/Tax Roll Data**

**Layer Status**
- Include the name of software vendor(s) the county utilizes and/or who the county contracts with to prepare assessment and tax roll data and/or tax bills.

**Custodian Maintenance Standards**
- s. 73.03(2a), Wis. Stats. Department of Revenue Powers and Duties Defined. Department of Revenue Property Assessment Manual – Chapter 5 and format standard requested for assessment/tax roll data.
- s. 59.72(2)(a), Wis. Stats. Presence of all nine “Act 20” attributes.
- s. 59.72(2)(a), Wis. Stats. Crosswalk of attributes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“Act 20” Attributes Required By s. 59.72(2)(a)</th>
<th>Field Name(s) in County Land Info System</th>
<th>Notes on Data or Exceptions to DOR Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessed value of land</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessed value of improvements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assessed value</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of property, as specified in s. 70.32 (2)(a)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated fair market value</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total property tax</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any zoning information maintained by the county</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any property address information maintained by the county</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any acreage information maintained by the county</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Non-Assessment/Tax Information Tied to Parcels**
- e.g., permits, easements, non-metallic mining, brownfields, restrictive covenants

**Layer Status**

**Custodian**

**Maintenance Standards**
- s. 59.43, Wis. Stats. Register of deeds; duties, fees, deputies.
- ch 706, Wis. Stats. Conveyances of real property; Recording; Titles.

**ROD Real Estate Document Indexing and Imaging**

**Status**
- **Grantor/Grantee Index.** Describe.
- **Tract Index.** Give status and specify whether tract indexing is parcel PIN-based or PLSS-based. Also specify what sort of documents the county’s tract indexing encompasses.
- **Imaging.** Describe.

**Custodian**
- County Register of Deeds

**Maintenance Standards**
- s. 59.43, Wis. Stats. Register of deeds; duties, fees, deputies.
- ch 706, Wis. Stats. Conveyances of real property; Recording; Titles.
LiDAR and Other Elevation Data

LiDAR
Layer Status
• Specify the accuracy, post spacing, contractor’s standard, etc. if known
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards

LiDAR Derivatives
e.g., terrain, contours, digital elevation models, etc.
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards

Other Types of Elevation Data
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards

Orthoimagery

Orthoimagery
Layer Status
• Specify currency of imagery, the resolution, contractor’s standard, and the update cycle
• Specify whether county participated in WROC 2015
• Give next year of planned flight that occurs after 2015
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards

Historic Orthoimagery
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards

Other Types of Imagery
e.g., oblique, infra-red, etc.
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards
Address Points and Street Centerlines

Address Point Data
- Layer Status
- Custodian
- Maintenance
- Standards

Building Footprints
- Layer Status
- Custodian
- Maintenance
- Standards

Other Types of Address Information
  - e.g., address ranges
- Layer Status
- Custodian
- Maintenance
- Standards

Street Centerlines
- Layer Status
- Custodian
- Maintenance
- Standards

Rights of Way
- Layer Status
- Custodian
- Maintenance
- Standards

Trails
  - e.g., recreational trails
- Layer Status
- Custodian
- Maintenance
- Standards

Land Use

Current Land Use
- Layer Status
- Custodian
- Maintenance
- Standards
Future Land Use
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards
- s. 66.1001, Wis. Stats. Comprehensive Planning. Future land use maps are typically created through a community’s comprehensive planning process. Future land use mapping for a county may be a patchwork of maps from comprehensive plans adopted by municipalities and the county.

Zoning

County General Zoning
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards

County Special Purpose Zoning
- e.g., shoreland, farmland preservation, floodplain, and airport protection
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards

Municipal Zoning Information Maintained by the County
- e.g., town, city and village, shoreland, floodplain, airport protection, extra-territorial, temporary zoning for annexed territory, and/or zoning pursuant to a cooperative plan
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards

Administrative Boundaries

Civil Division Boundaries
- e.g., towns, city, villages, etc.
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards

County Boundaries
Layer Status
Custodian
Maintenance
Standards
School District
  Layer Status
  • Specify whether and how school districts are tied to parcels
  Custodian
  Maintenance
  Standards

Election Boundaries
  e.g., voting districts, precincts, wards, voting places, etc.
  Layer Status
  Custodian
  Maintenance
  Standards

Utility Districts
  e.g., water, sanitary, electric, etc.
  Layer Status
  Custodian
  Maintenance
  Standards

Public Safety
  e.g., fire/police districts, emergency service districts, 911 call center service areas, healthcare facilities
  Layer Status
  Custodian
  Maintenance
  Standards

Lake Districts
  Layer Status
  Custodian
  Maintenance
  Standards

Native American Lands
  Layer Status
  Custodian
  Maintenance
  Standards

Other Administrative Districts
  e.g., county forest land, parks, etc.
  Layer Status
  Custodian
  Maintenance
  Standards
Other Layers

**Hydrography Maintained by County or Value-Added**
- e.g., hydrography maintained separately from DNR or value-added, such as adjusted to orthos
  - Layer Status
  - Custodian
  - Maintenance
  - Standards

**Cell Phone Towers**
- Layer Status
- Custodian
- Maintenance
- Standards

**Bridges and Culverts**
- Layer Status
- Custodian
- Maintenance
- Standards

**Other**
- e.g., pipelines, railroads, non-metallic mining, sinkholes, manure storage facilities, etc.
  - Layer Status
  - Custodian
  - Maintenance
  - Standards
4 LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM

The WLIP seeks to enable land information systems that are both modernized and integrated. Integration entails the coordination of land records to ensure that land information can be shared, distributed, and used within and between government at all levels, the private sector, and citizens.

One integration requirement is listed under s. 16.967(7)(a)(1), Wis. Stats., which states that counties may apply for grants for:

The design, development, and implementation of a land information system that contains and integrates, at a minimum, property and ownership records with boundary information, including a parcel identifier referenced to the U.S. public land survey; tax and assessment information; soil surveys, if available; wetlands identified by the department of natural resources; a modern geodetic reference system; current zoning restrictions; and restrictive covenants.

This chapter describes the design of the county land information system, with focus on how data related to land features and data describing land rights are integrated and made publicly available.

Current Land Information System

Diagram of County Land Information System

This optional section features a diagram that documents your county’s land information system and/or the various inter-organizational workflows it encompasses.

A diagram of the county land information system might include the following offices involved with the creation and maintenance of land information:

- Land Information Officer
- GIS technician
- Register of Deeds
- Treasurer
- Real Property Lister
- Public safety or emergency communications office
- County surveyor
- Zoning administrator
- Any other departments/offices

Again, this diagram is not mandatory. An example appears on the following page.
This required section features a diagram that documents your county’s parcel mapping and tax roll process. The diagram can be general and simple. Complex diagrams are welcome, but the purpose of the parcel workflow is for WLIP staff and other readers to better understand the various aspects of parcel data creation and maintenance, which greatly vary from county to county.

The workflow diagram for parcel data should depict:

- Major components of parcel data, especially those referenced by s. 59.72(2)(a), including:
  - 1) parcel polygons, 2) tax roll data, and 3) zoning information
- Integration of parcel polygons with other data/attributes, if applicable
- Departments/offices/staff involved with the creation and maintenance of parcel data

Again, the diagram can be simple, like the example below.

**Figure 1. Badger County Land Information System**

**County Parcel Data Workflow Diagram**

- **County Treasurer**
  - Generates tax bills
  - Supplies addresses

- **GIS Tech**
  - Maintains parcel maps
  - Land divisions/combinations
  - Lot line adjustments

- **Real Property Lister**
  - Combines legal descriptions, ownership, and values
  - Prepares and maintains ownership and description info for all parcels

- **Zoning Administrator**
  - Administers county land use regulations

- **County Clerk**
  - Tax auction info
  - County redistricting
  - Municipal wards
  - Polling information for voting

- **Register of Deeds**
  - Deeds
  - Certified survey maps
  - Subdivisions, condominiums
  - Sends real estate transfer returns to the state

- **Surveyor**
  - Maintains PLSS and other geodetic control

- **Municipalities**
  - Conducts Board of Review
  - Submit Statement of Assessment values

- **Assessor**
  - Assesses property values

- **Sheriff/911**
  - Address information for 911

- **Zoning Administrator**
  - Administers county land use regulations

- **County Treasurer**
  - Generates tax bills
  - Supplies addresses

- **GIS Tech**
  - Maintains parcel maps
  - Land divisions/combinations
  - Lot line adjustments

- **Real Property Lister**
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  - Conducts Board of Review
  - Submit Statement of Assessment values

- **Assessor**
  - Assesses property values

- **Sheriff/911**
  - Address information for 911
Parcel+ Tax Roll Workflow – Example

Register of Deeds
- Records real estate docs
- Sends real estate transfer returns to the State
- Codes docs in XYZ Software
- Creates grantor/grantee and tract indices in Branded Software Incorporated

Municipalities/Local Assessors
- Update property values

State
- DOR – Equalized assessment values, Property tax credits
- DNR – Managed Forest Lands Values

Real Property Lister
- Creates new parcels in tax database in Software ABC
- Assigns unique parcel ID
- Finalizes Tax Roll

Surveyor
- PLSS and other geodetic control

Zoning Administrator
- County general zoning
- County shoreland zoning

GIS Tech
- Maintains parcel geometries in Map Software Version 2.0

Land Information Officer
- Submits parcel polygons + tax roll data + zoning information to DOA

Treasurer
- Tax deeds
- Prints and mails property owner tax bills from Software ABC with contractor from Local Company Name

DOA
- Assembles Statewide Parcel Layer from Data

Tax Bills

Figure 2. Badger County Parcel + Tax Roll Workflow
Technology Architecture & Database Design
This section refers to the hardware, software, and systems that the county uses to develop and operate computer systems and communication networks for the transmission of land information data.

Describe the county’s land information software, hardware, and website development/hosting services. You may be general or detailed in this section.

Costs associated with ongoing technology expenditures or projected expenditures can optionally be listed in Chapter 2. As a reminder, the annual “County Retained Fee/Grant Report” due to DOA at the end of the state fiscal year provides detailed information on expenditures.

Metadata and Data Dictionary Practices
Describe the process for metadata creation and maintenance. Identify the software used to develop and provide access to geospatial metadata (e.g., ArcCatalog, Spatial Metadata Management Software, U.S. Geological Survey-developed tools, etc.). State whether the software generates metadata consistent with the FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata and which, if any, fields you manually populate. If your office has a policy of minimum metadata requirements, describe it or list any mandatory metadata fields.

Municipal Data Integration Process
Describe the process by which municipal data is integrated into the county land information system. If there are exceptional or notable situations regarding municipal data integration at the county level, describe them.

Public Access and Website Information
List websites for public access to land information, perhaps in a table format as in the example below. If your county has one single URL for all three functions (GIS web mapping, land records search, and tax parcel search), make sure it is clear to the reader that one website serves as a portal and/or achieves multiple functions. If county zoning information is available online, whether through an app, PDF map, or other format, note that as well.

If applicable, describe use of contractors, consultants, and/or third-party technology for access (e.g., specific web applications, consultants, software developers, offsite hosting).

Public Access and Website Information – Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Website</th>
<th>Software or App</th>
<th>3rd Party or Contractor</th>
<th>URL</th>
<th>Update Frequency/Cycle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GIS web mapping site</td>
<td>Vendor and software/app name</td>
<td>Vendor name</td>
<td><a href="http://saukgis.co.sauk.wi.us/">http://saukgis.co.sauk.wi.us/</a></td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROD land records search tools</td>
<td>Vendor and software/app name</td>
<td>Vendor name</td>
<td><a href="http://landshark.co.sauk.wi.us/LandShark/login.jsp?url=http://landshark.co.sauk.wi.us/LandShark/searchname.jsp">http://landshark.co.sauk.wi.us/LandShark/login.jsp?url=http://landshark.co.sauk.wi.us/LandShark/searchname.jsp</a></td>
<td>Daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RPL or tax parcel site</td>
<td>Vendor and software/app name</td>
<td>Vendor name</td>
<td><a href="http://lrs.co.sauk.wi.us/AscentLandRecords/PropertyListing/RealEstateTaxParcel">http://lrs.co.sauk.wi.us/AscentLandRecords/PropertyListing/RealEstateTaxParcel</a></td>
<td>As records are updated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoning information (PDF or webapp format)</td>
<td>Vendor and software/app name</td>
<td>County Planning and Zoning Administrator</td>
<td><a href="https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/cpz/official-zoning-maps">https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/cpz/official-zoning-maps</a></td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In this section, you may also optionally list municipal websites serving land information data that are maintained or sponsored by municipalities within your county. If applicable, note any municipalities which display county data by accessing county servers (e.g., through county REST end points).

**Data Sharing**

*Data Availability to Public*
Describe your data sharing policy with the public. Identify your efforts to comply with Wisconsin’s Open Records Law.

*Data Sharing Restrictions*
List and describe any restrictions on data distribution, search, download, or data privacy policies, as well as how or where members of the public are able to learn about any data restrictions.

*Government-to-Government Data Sharing*
Describe any government-to-government data sharing policies and practices, if applicable.

**Training and Education**
Describe, in as much detail as is appropriate, the county’s strategy for training and education concerning the county’s land information system.