

CHAPTER 7: TRANSPORTATION

INTRODUCTION

A safe, effective, and efficient transportation system can provide convenient transportation for residents and act as a catalyst for economic development in North Fond du Lac. Assessing North Fond du Lac's transportation system requires much more than just looking at road systems—pedestrian, bicyclist, transit, rail, and air transportation systems all play an important part in providing transportation for goods and people.

Wisconsin's Smart Growth Legislation requires the transportation element consist of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs which guide the development of various transportation modes. These modes include: highways, transit, transportation for those with disabilities, bicycles, pedestrian, railroads, air transportation, trucking, and water. This element serves to assess the current situation of these transportation modes, determine what North Fond du Lac wants them to become in the future, and devise ways to get there. This chapter, along with Appendix C-7 (Transportation Inventory) and Chapter 2, "Framework Plan" address these requirements.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS AND NARRATIVE

Road Network and Ratings

THE FACTS:

- *A total of 30 miles of functionally classified roads exist within North Fond du Lac.*
- *Interstate 41 is classified as a principal arterial.*
- *Minor arterials within the Village include: USH 45, CTH RP/Prospect Avenue, CTH OO/Winnebago Street and CTH VV.*
- *Urban collectors within North Fond du Lac include: Minnesota Avenue, McKinley Street and CTH VVV.*
- *Over 40% (10.3 miles) of the roads are in excellent to very good condition and require little maintenance.*
- *About 42% (10.6 miles) are in good to fair condition; while they are in good condition structurally, these roads will need slightly more maintenance work.*
- *Approximately 1% (0.3 miles) will require structural improvements (rating fail to fair) which could involve pavement recycling, overlay and patching.*

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WHAT IT MEANS:

Roads support all uses of land and can be expensive to build and maintain. Budgeting issues for road maintenance and construction have plagued Wisconsin communities (and the State) for many years and will likely continue to do so during the planning period. It is important that communities budget for an effective transportation network.

PLAN COMMISSION DISCUSSION

- In your opinion, are roads adequately maintained?

Public Transit

THE FACTS:

- *Although the Fond du Lac Area Transit offers fixed route service to the City of Fond du La, this service is not offered to the Village of North Fond du Lac.*
- *Shared Ride Taxi is a general public shared ride taxi arrangement between Fond du Lac Area Transit and a private city taxi company.*
- *Disabled and senior citizens (60 years and older) can utilize services provided by Fond du Lac County's Senior Services Department.*

WHAT IT MEANS

During the planning period, it is likely public transit demands will increase. An aging population, as well as changes in the housing market, will drive this demand. Transit is an important factor in creating places where all have access to live, work, and play in the community.

As the population of North Fond du Lac ages, their needs will also increase for rural transit. Existing programs may currently serve North Fond du Lac's needs, however; proper funding, support, and coordination will be necessary to continue meeting service needs throughout the planning period.

PLAN COMMISSION DISCUSSION

- Should North Fond du Lac have public transit services?

Pedestrian & Bicycle Facilities

THE FACTS:

- *North Fond du Lac residents have access to Mascoutin Valley State Trail, located south of the Village.*

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WHAT IT MEANS

Over the past 10 or so years, the demands for more and safer bicycle and pedestrian accommodations have increased greatly within the nation. Residents are looking at these modes of transportation for recreation purposes, but also as a primary method of commuting to work.

PLAN COMMISSION DISCUSSION

- *Are there enough bicycle and pedestrian options in the village?*
- *Do you think bicycle and pedestrian options could attract new residents and businesses?*

Air & Freight

THE FACTS:

- ***Nearby major airports that have scheduled passenger air service and can be utilized by residents include: Appleton International Airport in Greenville (approximately an hour north), Dane County Regional Airport in Madison (approximately 1-1/4 hours southwest), Austin Straubel International Airport in Green Bay (approximately an hour northeast) and General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee (1-1/4 hours). All of these airports are also classified as Commercial Service airports.***
- ***There are currently two railroad lines running through North Fond du Lac.***
- ***The nearest commercial (water) ports are located in Green Bay, approximately 70 miles away and Milwaukee, approximately 75 miles away.***
- ***One designated truck route exists in North Fond du Lac; I-41 is a Designated Long Truck Route.***

WHAT IT MEANS:

Access to commercial and car air services are critical for attracting and retaining people and businesses. Additionally, shipping goods on rail and water is becoming increasingly important in a global economy.

PLAN COMMISSION DISCUSSION

- *Do air and freight options hinder or help people and businesses in the area?*
- *Which airport do you travel from?*

GOALS, FRAMING CONCEPTS, POLICIES, STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

The goals, framing concepts, policies, strategies and actions are provided in Chapter 2 - Framework Plan. A single goal was developed for each plan element, along with a series of Framing Concepts which outline specific policies, strategies and action items pertaining to the implementation of this Chapter.

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POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

A comprehensive listing of federal, state, county and local policies and programs which may apply to topics discussed in this chapter (where known about) are contained in Appendix G