EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Comprehensive Plan was updated to comply with the State of Wisconsin's Smart Growth Initiative. (Wis. Stat. Sec. 66.1001(4)(a).)

In August, 2004, the Town of Union Board appointed a 25-member Union Smart Growth Committee to review and update the *1993 Comprehensive Plan*. The Committee designed a process that involved a variety of opportunities for public input including a survey of all households and listening sessions; conducted educational forums featuring resources speakers; conducted intergovernmental activities with neighboring cities, villages and towns and then drafted this plan.

After much discussion and input from residents, the goals that will guide decisions for land use in the township were developed. A summary of the goal for each element is below. For further information on the objectives and actions for each goal, please see the chapter related to each element.

Goals

Housing

Goal: To preserve the rural character of the township while providing for orderly, balanced residential and commercial development.

Transportation

Goal: To maintain a safe, balanced and economically sound transportation system that meets the needs of Town residents, farmers and businesses.

Utilities and Community Facilities

Goal: To facilitate and forecast planning needs for appropriate utilities and community facilities to support the overall Comprehensive Plan

Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources

- Goal: Protect the Town's open space and agricultural areas to maintain a rural character.
- **Goal:** To preserve and protect the Town's natural, scenic and historic resources for the enjoyment of current and future residents and visitors.
- Goal: To protect and preserve the Town's historical, archeological and cultural resources.

Economic Development

Goal: To strengthen and diversify the economy of the area.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

Goal: To continue to nurture and expand collaborative relationships with surrounding townships and municipalities and other applicable government entities

Land Use

Goal: To preserve the rural character of the township while providing for orderly, balanced residential and commercial development.

Implementation

Goal: To encourage interest in carrying out the concepts of the Comprehensive Plan.

Conclusion

The *Comprehensive Plan*, as drafted and approved by the Union Smart Growth Committee, was submitted to the Town's Plan Commission for review. The Plan Commission recommended the Plan to the Town Board on July 27, 2006. The Town Board approved the Plan on October 5, 2006.

This approved *Comprehensive Plan* will be used by the Plan Commission and the Town Board and other committees in the consideration of land use and zoning requests. It will also be used as a reference for other Township committees as they conduct their work.

A Standing Smart Growth Committee is recommended to continue the focus on comprehensive planning, to assist in the recommended reviews of this *Comprehensive Plan* and to serve as a recommendation-making body to the Plan Commission and Town Board.

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