

Town of Onalaska – Comprehensive Planning Survey

The Wisconsin Comprehensive Planning Law was enacted in 1999, which outlines the process and requirements for Local Government Comprehensive Plans (section 66.1001, Wis Stats.). The law allows for each community to create their own vision for physical, social, and economic development. A comprehensive plan must be updated no less than once every 10 years and contain the following nine elements:

- Issues and Opportunities
- Housing
- Transportation
- Utilities and Community Facilities
- Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources
- Economic Development
- Intergovernmental Cooperation
- Land Use
- Implementation

The Town of Onalaska is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan and would like your input. Please submit the hard copy to the Town Hall, N5589 Commerce Rd, Onalaska, WI 54650. Survey responses will be accepted through January 7th, 2022. Your answers will remain anonymous. Please indicate your address so we can ensure only one survey is completed per household.

1. What is your address? *Please enter your address below to verify you are a Town resident.*

2. Why do you choose to live in the Town of Onalaska?

**check all that apply*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community and rural character | <input type="checkbox"/> Close to natural resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Close to employment | <input type="checkbox"/> Reasonable tax rate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family & Friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Cost of living |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preferred place to raise children | <input type="checkbox"/> Close to major highway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Type of housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3. How long have you resided in the Town?

Mark only one.

- Less than 1 year
 1 to 5 years
 6 to 10 years
 More than 10 years

4. Do you rent or own the property where you reside?

Mark only one.

- Own
 Rent

5. Where do you work?

Mark only one.

- In the Town
 Outside the Town
 Work from home
 Student
 Retired
 Unemployed

6. Which of the following public services and facilities needs improvement?

**check all that apply*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Snow removal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Law enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> Town government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Storm water management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road maintenance | |

7. How would you rate the current efforts in the Town to regulate and guide development?

Mark only one.

- | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Very Satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Very Dissatisfied |

8. Which of the following types of new businesses would you like to see developed in the Town in the future?

**check all that apply*

- Professional offices (real estate, insurance, banks, etc.)
- Retail stores (stores, coffee shops, salons)
- Warehousing
- Gas station
- Health services/medical facilities
- Grocery store
- Business related commercial development (e.g. bed and breakfast, outdoor stores)
- Arts & Entertainment
- Lodging
- Wholesale trade
- Developments with a mix of residential, office, and retail space
- Quarrying/sand & gravel pit operations
- Agriculture/Agriculture Business

9. Would you support the creation or expansion of the following transportation opportunities?

**check all that apply*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobile trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Town/County Roads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ATV trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Bus routes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biking routes | |

10. Which statement best describes how you would want the Town to look 20 years from now?

Mark only one.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> As it looks now | <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly residential and some more businesses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> As it looks now, but with more residential units | <input type="checkbox"/> More outdoor recreation and green space |
| <input type="checkbox"/> As it looks now, but with more business and residential units | <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion |

11. Which of the following best describes your idea of where new housing should be located in the Town?

Mark only one.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> In and near developed areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Scattered on large lots (35+ acres) throughout the Town |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Directed to newly proposed rural subdivisions (4 or more lots) | <input type="checkbox"/> In and near existing rural concentrations of homes |

12. If you believe the Town should retain its rural character, what steps do you think the Town should take to keep this rural character?

**check all that apply*

- Encourage large lot zoning
- Encourage cluster development (a developer plots homes on smaller lots adjoining large tracts of land permanently protected as open space)
- Stop development
- Encourage purchase of development rights on farmland or natural resources lands by the Town
- Encourage purchase of development rights on farmland or natural resources lands by the private or non-profit entities
- Have Town purchase green space for preservation

13. The following are several statements that suggest choices about future directions for growth and development in the Town. Please check boxes next to the statements with which you AGREE.

**check all that apply*

- The Town should be mostly rural
- Any business development should be promoted
- The Town should promote the preservation of farmland
- Regulations should be reduced so landowners can more easily develop as they wish
- Most new development should occur adjacent to areas which are already mostly developed
- The Town should promote industrial development
- Natural resource protection should be a high priority for the Town
- The Town should promote more tourism and recreation-oriented businesses
- Traffic is a problem in the Town
- Development should mostly occur in cities and villages - not in the Town
- Land use conflicts between agriculture and residential areas are a problem in the Town
- Housing affordability is a problem in the Town
- It is important to coordinate the Town's future plans with surrounding towns, cities, and villages
- Agricultural businesses should be promoted
- Housing subdivisions should be allowed in the rural areas of the Town
- Farmers/landowners should be allowed to sell lots of less than 35 acres for housing developments
- Small family non-farm businesses should be allowed in the rural areas
- The Town should encourage the preservation of historic homesteads and other historic sites
- The Town should make improvements to storm water management

14. In a word or two, what do you believe are the two biggest issues, in order of priority, facing the Town?
