

Fiscal Estimate Narratives
DOC 5/5/2003

LRB Number	03-1937/1	Introduction Number	AB-270	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Residence of child sex offenders					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill places restrictions upon persons convicted of a serious sex offense. Under this bill, any child sex offender placed on parole, extended supervision or probation, is prohibited from residing within 1,000 feet of any state, county, city, village, or town park; a multiunit public housing project; a public swimming pool; a child care facility; a youth center; a community center; or any private or public school.

Departmental Impact:

During fiscal year 2002, 629 serious child sex offenders as defined in this bill were either placed on parole (255) or probation (374). It is assumed that 629 is the average number of serious sex offenders placed in the community each year. It is also assumed that the average supervision time for each offender is 5 years. Thus, for each of the first five years of any housing program, total offender populations will grow by 629 inmates per year, capping out at 3,145 offenders in year 5. During year 6, 629 additional offenders will be supervised but the first 629 to enter the program will drop off supervision roles. Note that it is also assumed that serious child sex offenders receiving probation will no longer be allowed to live in their current residence if they live within a prohibited area due to their residence being within 1,000 feet of a prohibited location, whether the residence is owned or rented.

The attached maps produced in April 2003 demonstrate that Department staff will find it extremely difficult to find housing for offenders in several counties with large urban areas (Brown, Racine, Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Dane) once the 1,000-foot rule is implemented. In addition, communities have increasingly placed pressure on landlords and homeowners to refuse housing to sex offenders. It is also assumed that each of Wisconsin's 72 counties will have at least a handful of serious sex offenders released into the community or placed on probation every year. Due to these pressures, it is assumed that the Department will no longer be able to locate housing for serious sex offenders except in rural areas of every county.

Very few employment opportunities are available in rural areas of Wisconsin. Additionally, there is no public transportation so offenders may need Department assistance in acquiring both a job and transportation to and from any work opportunities and general purposes such as grocery shopping and medical appointments. Probation and Parole Agents' travel time for home visits could also increase under the provisions of this bill.

2001 Wisconsin Act 16 directs the Department under s. 301.03 (19), Wis. Stats. "...to minimize to the greatest extent possible, the residential population density of sex offenders...who are on probation, parole, or extended supervision..." The Department assumes that housing must be located in rural areas of every county. Based on an analysis of the aforementioned 5 counties, it is assumed that 80% of current child sex offenders live within the 1000 foot restricted area. If this is representative of future statistics, then approximately 2,500 offenders will have to be placed in rural areas over the next 5 years. It is assumed that sufficient existing housing does not presently exist in rural areas to house this population.

This bill does not require the Department to construct and manage housing for offenders. Nevertheless, one option is for the Department to construct multi-unit-housing units in rural areas of each county. Assuming a construction cost of \$35,000 per offender to construct efficiency apartments, the five-year building costs total \$87,500,000, excluding the costs of purchasing land (2,500 offenders * \$35,000 each). A second option is the Department could purchase and manage existing rural motel/hotel units in counties where they are available.

The Department could also contract with rural temporary living placement vendors who would construct and manage housing in rural areas. The Department is currently paying an average of \$28.08 per night for beds. Total annual costs for 3,625 beds would total \$25,623,000. This would provide the added benefit of on-site

vendor staff to provide supervision.

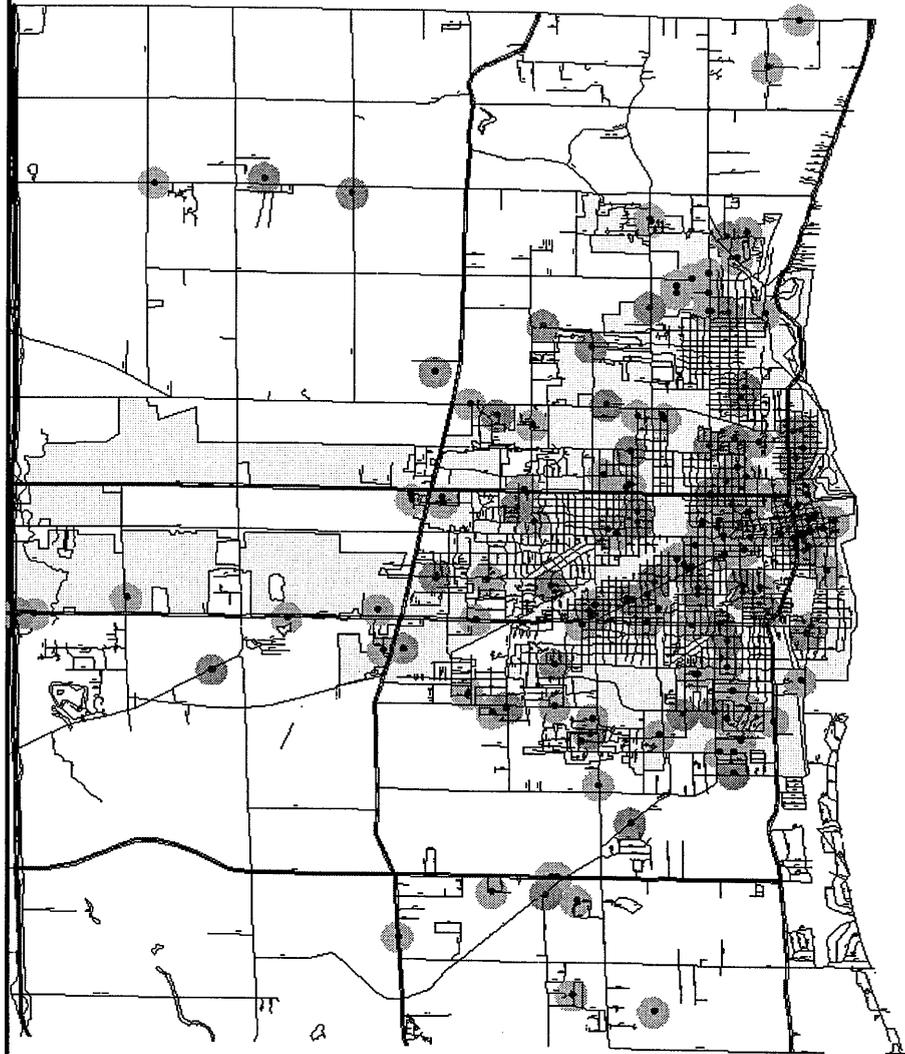
Offenders paying rent for the units would offset some of the costs of any of these options. If we assume each offender pays \$400 per month, once employed, at the end of the five-year period, annual revenue is approximately \$12,000,000.

Local Government Impact:

Multi-unit housing units that are constructed by the State in rural areas may remove land from tax roles thus reducing a community's tax revenues.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Kenosha County East of I-94



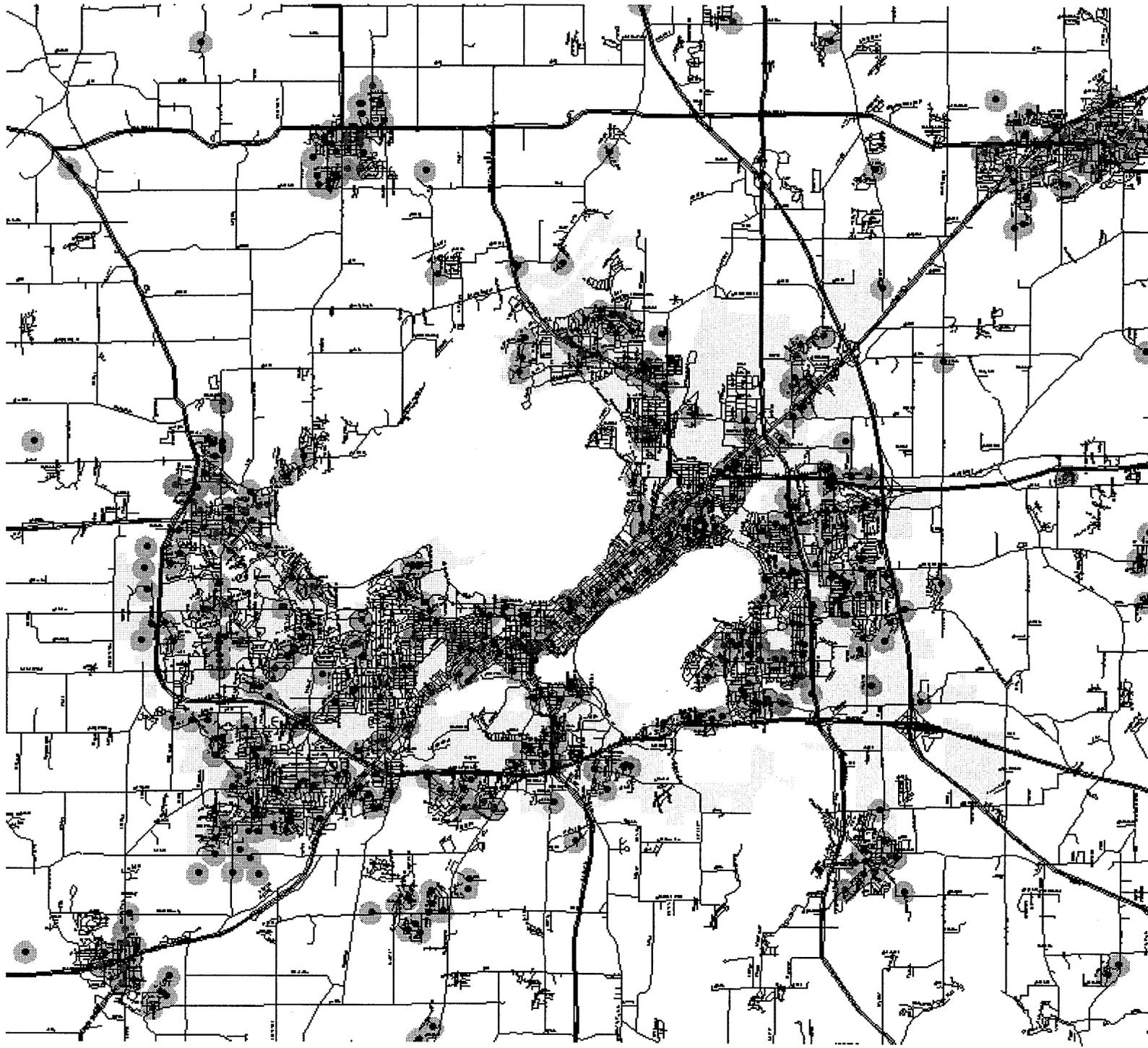
Lake Michigan



- Community centers
- WHEDA Listed Public Housing
- Schools
- Day Care (In Home & Group)
- ▨ School buffer
- ▨ 1000 ft. Buffer (Day Care)
- ▨ 1000 ft. Buffer (Public Housing)
- ▨ 1000 ft. Buffer (Community & Youth Centers)
- Highways
- Streets
- Water
- ▭ City of Kenosha

This map does not include 2671 Acres of Parks in Kenosha County

Map made by: C. E. B. Co.
 Kenosha, Wisconsin
 Date: 10/1/71



Brown County (Green Bay)



***This map does not include over 5,200 Acres of Public Lands

