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July 9, 2003

Senator Ronald W. Brown
104 South, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Brown 

As we have discussed previously, the four bills I have authored which are designed to give Wisconsin towns more authority in the future development of town land, including annexation, have been referred to your committee.

Across the state, a third of the people living and working in Wisconsin live in towns and have little to say in matters of urban growth. My bills ensure they are treated more equitably in land use issues. Your consideration in scheduling these bills (Senate Bills 87, 88, 89 and 110) for public hearings in the very near future would be appreciated. Please let me know if you have a tentative time-schedule for these bills.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



ALAN J. LASEE
SENATE PRESIDENT
1ST Senate District

cc: Rick Stadelman

Senate Bill 110
(LRB 1589)
Local Fiscal Estimate

Legislative change to give towns same authority as cities and villages when town adopts official map based upon comprehensive plan.

This bill authorizes a town to adopt an official map at any time and requires that a county development plan include the official map of any town in the county that has adopted a comprehensive plan.

Comprehensive plan: a plan that must contain planning elements including the following: housing; transportation; utilities and community facilities; agricultural, natural and cultural resources; economic development; and land use.

This bill gives the incentive to towns for a comprehensive plan.

*Repeal
Map
"Comprehensive"*

Drafting Request

Statement of Purpose of Bill: Seek legislative change to give towns same authority as cities and villages when town adopts official map and comprehensive plan, i.e. that county must incorporate town official map into county plan

Statement of Current Law: Under current law, Sec. 59.69 (3) (b) of Wis. Statutes, the county must include in the county master plan any city or village comprehensive plan adopted under Sec. 62.23 (3) and the county must include in the county plan any city or village official map adopted under 62.23 (6) of Wis. Statutes. ~~The county is not required to include either a town comprehensive plan or a town official map.~~

Request: ~~To include language in Sec. 59.69 that county must include the town comprehensive plan and the town official map.~~

Some other points of interest to address: ^{*amend **} (1) ~~Repeal~~ Sec. 59.69 (3)(e) to eliminate the potential conflict between town and city/village plan or official maps in the extraterritorial area.

(2) Include a reference under Sec. 60.23 (Miscellaneous powers of town board) a statement that town board may adopt an official map pursuant to the same procedures as cities and villages under Sec. 62.23 (6) of Wis. Statutes. {Note this statement would give the town board authority without village powers.}

For Further Information please contact Rick Stadelman, Wis. Towns Association, At (715) 526-3157.

** drafter stated
amend 59.69 (3)(e)
works better than a
repeal*