

4. Utilities and Community Facilities

4.1 Utilities and Community Facilities Plan

Efficient provision of high quality community facilities and services impacts property values, taxes, and economic opportunities, and contributes to the quality of life in the Town of Sand Lake. Local features such as parks, schools, utilities, and protective services help define a community. These facilities and services require substantial investment as supported by the local tax base, user fees, and impact fees. As a result, their availability is determined both by public demand for those facilities and services, and by a community's ability to pay for them. Therefore, potential impacts on the cost and quality of utilities and community facilities need to be considered when making decisions concerning the future conservation and development of the Town of Sand Lake.

For further detail on existing utilities and community facilities in the Town of Sand Lake and Burnett County, please refer to Chapter 4 of the *Inventory and Trends Report*. Map 4-1 displays the locations of existing community facilities and services found in the town.

With the amount of population and housing growth that is expected over the next 20 years, the Town of Sand Lake should also anticipate the need to maintain and expand utilities, community facilities, and services. Top issues and opportunities identified during the planning process (refer to the *Issues and Opportunities* element) include the cost of community service and facility improvements and the related tax impacts, the need for additional law enforcement, and the need for improved facilities at public boat landings. Overall, the town's plan for utilities and community facilities is to monitor changing needs, to be prepared for proposed development, and to make planned improvements as growth warrants the need.

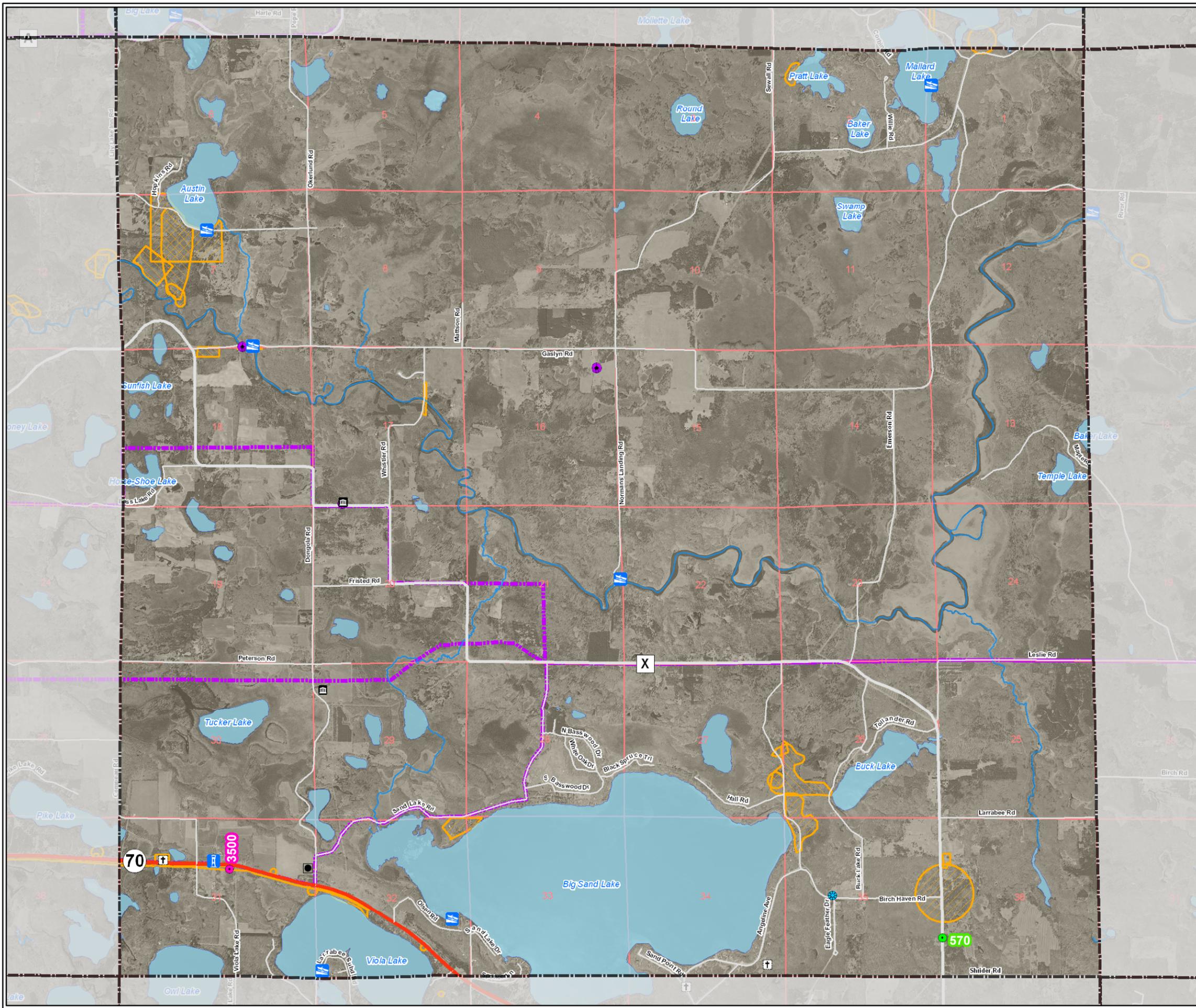
The Town of Sand Lake is administered by an elected board of one chair, two supervisors, a clerk and treasurer. The possibility of changing the clerk and treasurer positions from elected to appointed has not met with voter approval, but remains a goal of the elected board.

The Town of Sand Lake has no plans to replace either the Town Hall or the Town Shop, but is committed to maintaining the historic character of the Town Hall, the former Dongola School, and the functionality of the Town Shop.

One of the biggest challenges that the town is likely to face with regard to utilities and community facilities is the impact of growth on the cost of providing such services. Research by UW-Extension, the American Farmland Trust, and others has shown that not all new development pays for itself. In other words, the cost of the increased demand on public services and facilities resulting from new development often exceeds the revenue generated in new taxes and fees paid. This seems to be true of residential development in particular. As a result, this plan recommends that substantial new developments provide an analysis of the cost of providing community services as part of the development review process. It also recommends that impact fees are considered as a potential tool for funding needed facility and service improvements.

The actual pattern of growth on the landscape can also impact the cost and efficiency of delivering services. In general, dispersed development is more costly to service than clustered or concentrated development. This plan recommends that the town carefully manage growth in order to minimize the demand for increased services and facilities (policy LU8) and encourages the use of cluster or conservation design in order to avoid a dispersed development pattern (policies ANC1 and ANC2).

MAP 4 - 1 COMMUNITY FEATURES TOWN OF SAND LAKE Burnett County, Wisconsin



Legend

Base Layers	Community Facilities
State Highway	Town/Village Hall
County Highway	EMS/Ambulance
Town Road	Fire Station
Rivers	Library
Lakes	Police
PLSS Sections	Boat Launch
Village Boundary	Indoor Public Facility
Township Boundary	Park
County Boundary	Golf
	Airport
	Cemetery
Historic Sites	Church
Log Camps	Community Center
Historic Bridges	Daycare
Architecture and Historic Inventory	Health Care Clinic
Ferry Crossing	Public Parking
Burnett Co Firsts	Recycling Center
Historical Roads	School Athletic Facility
Archaeological Site Inventory	School - Public
Bibliography of Archaeological Reports	Senior Center
	Dam
Annual Average Daily Traffic	WW Treatment Plant
Annual Average Daily Traffic 2002	Lift Station
Annual Average Daily Traffic 2007	Substation
	Telephone Utility
	Tower - Communication
	Water Tower
	Public Well
	Utility Shop/Office

Source: Division of Historic Preservation at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Wisconsin DOT and Burnett Co Land Information Office. Historical data shown is a depiction of information taken from various sources of diverse quality. This drawing is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only.



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4.2 Planned Utility and Community Facility Improvements

Comprehensive planning includes identifying the need for expansion, construction, or rehabilitation of utilities and community facilities. In addition to infrastructure needs, there are also service level needs that may arise in the community. For example, additional police service, need for a building inspector, or additional park and recreation services may become necessary.

The Town of Sand Lake has determined that the following utilities, facilities, and services will need expansion, construction, rehabilitation, or other improvement over the planning period. Projects are identified as short-term (1-5 years) and long-term (6-20 years), and if associated with a specific location in the community, are shown on Map 4-2.

Administrative Facilities and Services

Refer to Section 4.2 of *Appendix UCF* of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on existing administrative facilities and services in the Town of Sand Lake.

Short Term

- ◆ Continue to maintain the historic character of the Town Hall, the former Dongola School. Continue to maintain the functionality of the Town Shop

Long Term

- ◆ At this time there are no plans to replace or improve the Town Hall or the Town Shop beyond routine maintenance.

Police Services

Refer to Section 4.3 of *Appendix UCF* of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on existing police services in the Town of Sand Lake.

Short Term

- ◆ Continue to look to Burnett County Sheriff's Department, the Wisconsin State Patrol and the St. Croix Hertel Tribal Police Department for law enforcement.

Long Term

- ◆ Continue to evaluate the need for additional or local law enforcement.

Fire Protection and EMT/Rescue Services

Refer to Section 4.3 of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on existing fire and emergency medical/rescue services.

Short Term

- ◆ Work with other Burnett County towns and villages to contract for county-wide, high quality emergency medical services.
- ◆ Continue to receive fire protection services from the Webster Volunteer Fire Department and the St. Croix Hertel Fire Department

Long Term

- ◆ Work with other Burnett County towns and villages to seek more creative, regional approaches to emergency medical services
- ◆ Continue to evaluate fire protection services.

Schools

Refer to Section 4.4 of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on the schools that serve the Town of Sand Lake. No short term or long term recommendations have been identified. Existing schools are anticipated to be adequate to meet the needs of the town over the planning period.

Libraries, Cemeteries, and Other Quasi-Public Facilities

Refer to Section 4.5 of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on existing libraries, post offices, and private recreational facilities in Burnett County. Refer to Section 4.5 of *Appendix UCF* of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on churches and cemeteries in the Town of Sand Lake.

Short Term

- ◆ Continue to support the Burnett Community Library

Long Term

- ◆ Continue to evaluate library services.

Parks and Recreation

Refer to Section 4.6 of *Appendix UCF* of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on existing park and recreational facilities in the Town of Sand Lake.

Short Term

- ◆ There are no plans to develop parks or recreational facilities in the Town of Sand Lake.

Long Term

- ◆ Continue to evaluate the need for parks or recreational facilities in the Town of Sand Lake.

Solid Waste and Recycling

Refer to Section 4.7 of *Appendix UCF* of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on existing solid waste and recycling service in the Town of Sand Lake.

Short Term

- ◆ Support regional efforts to develop curbside solid waste and recycling services

Communication and Power Facilities

Refer to Section 4.8 of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on the communication and power facilities that serve the Town of Sand Lake. No short term or long term recommendations have been identified. Existing communication and power facilities are anticipated to be adequate to meet the needs of the town over the planning period.

Sanitary Sewer Service

Refer to Section 4.9 of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on sanitary sewer service in Burnett County.

Short Term

- ◆ Currently, there is no need to consider sanitary sewer service in the Town of Sand Lake.

Long Term

- ◆ Continue to evaluate the need for sanitary sewer service

Private On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS)

Refer to Section 4.10 of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on private on-site wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) in Burnett County.

Short Term

- ◆ Continue to support the Burnett County sanitary ordinance

Long Term

- ◆ Continue to evaluate the Burnett County sanitary ordinance

Public Water

Refer to Section 4.11 of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on public water supply in Burnett County.

Short Term

- ◆ Currently, there is no need to consider a public water source in the Town of Sand Lake.

Long Term

- ◆ Continue to evaluate the public water supply.

Stormwater Management

Refer to Section 4.12 of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on stormwater management in the Town of Sand Lake.

Short Term

- ◆ Continue to support Burnett County's efforts to manage stormwater through the building permit process and following permit guidelines.

Long Term

- ◆ Continue to evaluate stormwater management techniques.

Health Care and Child Care Facilities

Refer to Sections 4.13 and 4.14 of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on health care and child care facilities in Burnett County. No short term or long term recommendations have been identified. Existing health care and child care facilities are anticipated to be adequate to meet the needs of the town over the planning period.

Local Roads and Bridges

Refer to the *Transportation* element of this plan and the *Transportation* element of the *Inventory and Trends Report* for information on roads and bridges in Burnett County.

Short Term

- ◆ Continue to update the Town of Sand Lake's five-year road and bridge improvement plan and budget appropriately.

Long Term

- ◆ Continue to update the five-year road and bridge improvement plan and continue to budget appropriately.