

6.0 UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

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6.0 UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Introduction

It is important to understand what utilities and community facilities are available in the Town of Nekimi in order to gauge, based on population estimates and projections, how well served the population will be over the life of the plan. Because Nekimi is a growing community, it is important to make sure services are adequate to meet future demand and expansions are planned in a timely and cost-efficient manner. Currently, the Town of Nekimi has several community facilities located within its boundaries and nearby to serve residents. What follows is a description of some of the community facilities.

Utilities & Community Facilities Vision

IN 20 YEARS, THE TOWN OF NEKIMI CONTINUES TO PROVIDE ALL THE BASIC TOWN SERVICES IT HAS PROVIDED SINCE 2002. THE TOWN COORDINATES WITH WINNEBAGO COUNTY AND THE CITY OF OSHKOSH TO ENSURE THAT TOWN RESIDENTS HAVE EASY ACCESS TO A FULL-RANGE OF SERVICES, INCLUDING: MEDICAL CARE, RETAIL, EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AND ENTERTAINMENT CHOICES. PORTIONS OF THE TOWN, ADJACENT TO THE CITY OF OSHKOSH, ARE SERVED BY MUNICIPAL SEWER AND WATER SERVICE THROUGH A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY. MOST RESIDENTS RELY ON PRIVATE WELL WATER AND INDIVIDUAL SEPTIC SYSTEMS.

Existing Facilities Inventory– Location, Use, Capacity

Understanding the location, use and capacity of utilities and community facilities is an important consideration when planning for the future. This information, coupled with the demographic trends and projections, provides a realistic picture of service supply and demand. The community facilities and utilities discussed in this chapter were carefully considered in the development of the *Future Land Use Maps*.

What follows is a description of existing utilities and community facilities within the Town of Nekimi. Many of the services available to town residents are provided by neighboring communities or Winnebago County. These arrangements have helped to control town costs over the years. Therefore, included in this chapter is information about some of the utilities and community facilities located in and provided by the City of Oshkosh and Winnebago County.

Wastewater Collection and Treatment

Nearly all of the residents in the Town of Nekimi depend on **individual on-site wastewater systems** to accommodate the needs of residents and businesses located in the town. There is one subdivision in the town that has a system that serves the neighborhood. Municipal sewer service is available in the City of Oshkosh. Historically, properties that have sought to connect to this service have been annexed into the City. The Town of Nekimi has no plans to establish its own wastewater collection and treatment system in the future.

Stormwater Management¹

What is stormwater runoff? It is water from rainstorms or snowmelt that flows over the land rather than evaporating or soaking into the ground. Areas with more impervious surface (i.e. roads, sidewalks, rooftops and parking lots) generate more stormwater runoff.

The Town of Nekimi has no curb and guttered areas. Stormwater management requirements are currently limited to construction sites and agricultural limitations imposed by Winnebago County. There is no stormwater management plan in place for the Town of Nekimi.

In 1999, the EPA finalized its Storm Water Phase II Regulations. **The Town of Nekimi has been identified as a government entity located in an urbanized area that is now required to obtain a storm water discharge permit through the WDNR.** The permit will require a stormwater management plan that includes best management practices to be implemented, measurable goals, and compliance with other WPDES requirements. The regulations also require construction sites of 1 to 5 acres obtain a permit. The Town of Nekimi Stormwater Management Plan must:

- ✓ Reduce the discharge of pollutants to the “*maximum extent practicable*”;
- ✓ Protect water quality; and
- ✓ Satisfy the appropriate water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act.

To achieve the “maximum extent practicable” standard, the Town of Nekimi Stormwater Management Program requires the accomplishment of six measurable goals:

1. Public education and outreach;
2. Public participation and involvement;
3. Illicit discharge detection and elimination;
4. Construction site runoff control;
5. Post construction runoff control; and
6. Pollution prevention/good housekeeping.

¹ Additional information is available at the Winnebago County Web Site www.uwex.edu/ces/ces/cty/winnebago/pages/crdstormwaterefforts.htm

COMM 83

In July 2000, the Wisconsin Department of Commerce implemented an administrative rule known as Comm 83. This rule allows homebuilders to install nine new kinds of innovative septic systems. The rule allows for development in areas that cannot be served by conventional systems.

The Town of Nekimi supports the use of innovative treatment systems permissible through COMM 83.

For additional information about the Comm 83 rule and the nine systems permitted, go to the Department of Commerce Web Page at: www.commerce.state.wi.us

The existing zoning ordinance provisions in the Winnebago County Zoning Ordinance pertaining to stormwater management will not comply with federal and state regulations. Aware of this problem, Winnebago County is developing post-construction stormwater and construction site erosion ordinances that would apply to the Town of Nekimi. However, these ordinances will only comply with two of the six measurable goals. The other four: public education and outreach, public participation/involvement, illicit discharge detection and elimination and pollution prevention/good housekeeping still need to be complied with. Given that stormwater flow does not stop at municipal boundaries, it would likely be in the town's best interest to coordinate its stormwater planning efforts with the City of Oshkosh and neighboring towns.²

To meet the requirements of the federal Clean Water Act, the WDNR developed the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) Storm Water Discharge Permit Program, which is regulated under the authority of ch. NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code. As part of the EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, the WPDES Storm Water Program regulates discharge of storm water in Wisconsin from construction sites, industrial facilities, and selected municipalities. Additional information about WDNR stormwater requirement is provided in the box on the right. The WDNR is currently working to develop community guidelines for compliance with these minimum measures. Permits for stormwater are to be obtained by March 1, 2003.

Open grass lined ditches serve to slow the flow of storm water, reduce erosion, filter pollutants, and allow infiltration of the groundwater. The Town of Nekimi prefers to remain with open, grass-lined ditches to control its storm water. There are no county drainage districts in the Town of Nekimi and no plans to establish any in the future.

Given the limited density of proposed future development and the potential use of conservation, cluster and other innovative design techniques that will have a less negative impact on stormwater management, town officials *believe* that existing

WDNR Stormwater Regulations

In Wisconsin, the WDNR is responsible for issuing stormwater permits. The WDNR has recently adopted a series of storm water resolutions and requirements.

NR151, Runoff Management–

Modified in 2002, to include five resolutions impacting performance standards for agricultural operations, wetlands and in-fill development.

NR 152, Model Ordinances for Construction Site Erosion Control and Stormwater

Management – Modified in 2002 to reflect changes to NR 216 and NR 151.

NR 216, Stormwater Discharge

Permits – Defines the WDNR storm water permit requirements. Certain industrial sites in the are required to obtain discharge permits under this law through the WDNR.

A complete copy of the law is available at:

www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/nr/nr216.pdf

P-8 Urban Catchment Model -

Available free of charge from the WDNR, this model is used to evaluate site plans for storm water performance.

For more information:

Cheryl Bougie, Stormwater Management Specialist
(920) 448-5141

Or check the Internet at:

www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/nps/stormwater.htm

² Information about stormwater, including prevention techniques, is provided in this section as well as in the Land Use Chapters. In the future, when the town develops a web page, information from this plan, including stormwater management information, may be posted there.

practices will be superior to meet local needs. However, given the new requirements, the Town will need to develop the necessary plans and complete the mandated paperwork to demonstrate this fact or seek an exception from the state. As areas of the town are annexed to the City of Oshkosh and developed, the City and Town will need to coordinate to plan for stormwater management.

Water Supply

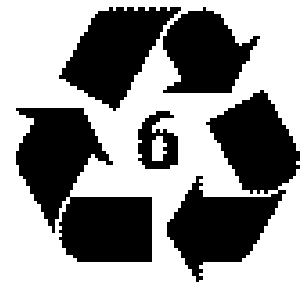
Winnebago County has abundant and readily available supply of potable groundwater and surface water for nearly all anticipated uses. The source of surface water in the county is Lake Winnebago. This lake, the largest inland lake in the state, contains more than 137,700 surface acres of water. It is the main water supply for the cities of Appleton (Outagamie/Winnebago/Calumet Counties), Neenah (Winnebago County), Menasha (Winnebago County) and Oshkosh (Winnebago County).

Groundwater in the county is from sandstone, limestone and glacial deposits. Both surface and groundwater in the county are hard to very hard, and generally requires treatment. Dissolved iron in the area's groundwater is a specific problem for a large portion of the county. In general, there are few, if any, pollution problems that affect the potability of the water resources. A main exception is the amount of nutrient-laden runoff from farm fields and urban areas that contribute to the extensive algae concentrations in the summer months. While generally not toxic to humans, the algae creates treatment difficulties and increased expenses for water treatment plants. The town is striving to protect and maintain both the quality and quantity of surface and groundwater.

Residents and businesses in the Town of Nekimi receive their water from **individual, private wells. There is no municipal water service in the town and no plans to establish such a service.** Although some communities in the greater area have experienced water problems, especially problematic when associated with naturally occurring arsenic, similar water quality issues are not predicted in the Town of Nekimi. The City of Oshkosh has a water tower located in the Town of Nekimi. This tower serves city residents only.

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling

In 1989, the State of Wisconsin adopted a recycling law. Beginning in 1995, the disposal of paper products such as newspaper, office paper, magazines and corrugated cardboard and containers made from aluminum and steel were prohibited from being disposed of in landfills. Certain glass and plastic containers were also banned. In addition, the recycling law also prohibited landfill disposal of tires, automotive batteries, oil, appliances and yard wastes.



The Town of Nekimi has a contract with **Superior Waste Services** to provide roadside waste and recycling pick-up in the town. Refuse and recyclables are collected once a week from each property in the town. This contract has been working well for the town for many years and the town has no plans to change its arrangements. Superior Services

anticipates no problems handling the town's waste disposal and recycling needs for the next 20 years.

Waste materials collected are taken to the Winnebago County Landfill. In 2002, Outagamie, Brown and Winnebago Counties have entered into an intergovernmental agreement - a 25-year contract - to utilize one landfill at a time, rather than have each county continue to provide their own landfill operations. This agreement will help to decrease labor and equipment costs by two-thirds.

During the first 3 years of the contract, Outagamie County will handle all land filling for the three counties. After that period, Winnebago County will reopen its landfill for the next 7 years until filled (approximately 2012). At that time, all collected waste from Winnebago, Outagamie and Brown Counties will be directed back to the Outagamie County Landfill for the next 7 years. Finally, the last 6-7 years, Brown County will collect all waste collected by the counties. This phased approach will utilize each county landfill until it reaches capacity.

Outagamie, Brown and Winnebago Counties have also entered into a recycling contract. The contract is only for 12 years, not the 25 of the waste management contract because all three counties had 6 years left on recycling contracts with participating municipalities and wanted to provide an option to renew for another 6 years. Also, the long-term status of recycling is not known. The Governor and some legislators are considering eliminating the mandatory recycling program.

Under the contract, all containers and paper products collected in Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties will be processed at the Brown County Facility. This process will improve efficiency to reduce costs. The recycling materials collected by Superior Services in the Town of Nekimi are processed at the Brown County Facility.

Park and Recreation Areas

The Town of Nekimi has three (3) designated recreational facilities: The YMCA Camp, Circle-R-Campground, and pavilion and park area adjacent to the Nekimi Town Hall. The **YMCA Camp** is located in the western portion of the town (refer to *Existing Land Use Map* in Chapter 9). This facility is a private recreational area with an overnight building.



Circle-R-Campground is located in the eastern portion of the town on Old Knapp Road (refer to *Existing Land Use Map* in Chapter 9). The facility includes a small store, playground area and other basic services. Circle-R-Campground can accommodate tent as well as RV campers.

The covered pavilion and open area located east of the Town Hall (4.5 acre site) is the official **Town Park**. **This is the only public park facility in the town.** The town supports the establishment of other recreation areas and trail facilities, particularly as part of conservation subdivision developments. The Town of Nekimi is also interested in developing a second community park.



Aside from the designated recreational facilities, the Town of Nekimi has several additional areas, under private ownership, that offer significant recreation opportunities (i.e. lakes, natural areas, etc.). Also, a snowmobile trail, maintained by private clubs, runs through the Town during the winter season to provide snowmobile enthusiasts a place to play.

The **National Recreation and Park Association** recommends a community standard of 10 acres of local public recreation land per 1,200 residents. The current population of the Town of Nekimi is 1,434 persons (2002 DOA Population Estimate). To meet this standard at least 12 acres of parkland would be required in the Town of Nekimi. The East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission recommends 10 acres of local recreation land per 1,000 residents. Based on this standard, nearly 14.34 acres of parkland should be provided.

Winnebago County maintains two (2) park facilities that are easily accessible for residents of the Town of Nekimi: Winnebago County Community Park and Asylum Point Park.

Winnebago County Community Park is a 270-acre site located in the far northern section of the City of Oshkosh bordered by County Road Y and Snell Road, and County Road A and STH 76. Facilities include:

- four shelters with playground equipment and support amenities;
- ball diamonds (two lighted and one unlighted);
- a 12-field soccer complex;
- an archery range;
- a BMX track;
- six tennis courts;
- a 1.1 mile exercise course;
- numerous picnic shelters;
- two fishing lakes; and a
- supervised swimming beach.



Asylum Point Park is 56.5 acres primarily dedicated to wildlife habitat restoration. The property bounds Lake Winnebago and terrain ranges from scenic lakefront to marshland

to prairie. The park is located about 1/2 east of County Road A at the intersection of Sherman and Snell Roads. Winnebago County also leases an additional 17 acres of land from WDNR. This property primarily fronts on Lake Winnebago and South Asylum Bay and has a boat launch facility which is an excellent shore fishing location. The boat launch ramp also serves as a primary winter access to Asylum Bay and the lake.

Based on conversations with the Winnebago County Parks Department, there are no immediate or long-term plans to expand the existing park facilities, develop a new park, or add additional facilities to the existing parks. The Winnebago County Parks Department focus for the foreseeable future will continue to be maintenance of existing facilities and programs offered through the department.

Residents of the Town of Nekimi have access to six (6) public golf courses, 35 public parks, 10 public tennis courts and 5 public swimming pools in the City of Oshkosh and other nearby communities (within 10 miles). Moreover, the greater area also offers a YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, several museums and art galleries, natural resource areas, beaches, and movie theaters.

Communication Facilities

Access to communication facilities is very important in the modern economy. Several communication companies provide telephone, radio, and television service to the Town of Nekimi. These services are expected to continue in the future and be expanded as technology and demand dictates. The quality of communication services depends on the capacity of the lines and towers serving the town. One particular area of concern with respect to communication facilities is the availability and demand for cellular service.

The advent of new communication technologies, such as cell phones, has greatly increased the need for towers to provide receiving and sending capabilities. The federal government formally recognized this need by the passage of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The **Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996** has increased the need for many local governments to examine their zoning ordinances to make sure that they do not discriminate against cellular communications in land use and zoning decisions. Under Section 704 of the act, townships do have the power to regulate the placement, construction and modification of personal wireless facilities, as long as the rules do not unreasonably discriminate between providers or prohibit service.

“Stealth” tower technologies are an exciting way to *minimize* the impact of towers. As opposed to traditional towers, stealth towers place antenna on:

- flagpoles
- fence posts
- silos
- water towers
- electrical poles
- streetlights
- church steeples, etc.

These alternative locations are not perfect in every situation. The Town should continue to explore these potential technologies as cellular and tower demand increases in the area.

There are **three cellular towers located in the Town of Nekimi**. One is east of Clairville Road and north of CTH N. Another is at the intersection of CTH Z and USH 41. The third is located atop the Oshkosh water tower located in the Town of Nekimi. There is also a microwave tower located on James Road (western town boundary), south of Fisk Avenue and a radio station tower on Waupun Road. Town residents also have cellular service coverage from towers located in the City of Oshkosh and neighboring communities.

Tower Location and Coverage. How large is the service area for a single cellular tower? This is a very complicated question to answer. Coverage areas depend on topography and tower height. In order to provide a complete network, towers must be able to “see” one another.

When cellular technology first came about, analog service required towers of a height of 300 feet or more. These towers could provide coverage within a five-mile radius of the tower. Today, new digital technologies, PCS, and the wireless Internet operate at a higher frequency than the older analog towers. This increased frequency reduces the coverage from a five-mile radius to a 2-3 mile radius. As a result, there is a need for more towers to serve the same area. If new towers and antennas are needed in the town, the coverage zones will vary with frequency, height, and service type. A radio frequency engineer can determine the exact coverage areas for any new tower or antenna.

There are two “schools” of thought on tower height and location. One “school” prefers the use of several shorter towers in a community; whereas, the other group prefers the use of fewer taller towers. Each of these approaches can provide adequate coverage within a community, but do not necessarily eliminate the need for additional towers.

Future Towers in the Town of Nekimi. Unfortunately, it is not possible to accurately develop a map of specific locations to site towers in the Town of Nekimi. This is because networks provided by different carriers have different location requirements for towers. Moreover, as technologies change and new licenses are granted for additional carriers to move into the area, locations identified on a map would quickly become outdated.

One problem with 1996 Telecommunications Act, from a local perspective, is that simply providing coverage is not enough. Communities must provide for networks from competing carriers licensed in an area. The number of licenses granted, and in turn, the number of towers needed is controlled by the FCC. Currently, there are seven (7) carriers licensed to provide cellular service in Eastern Wisconsin.

It is anticipated that in the next 5-10 years the primary coverage area for wireless service in the Town of Nekimi will continue to be along the USH 41, STH 26 and

STH 44 corridors. Beyond this timeframe, coverage will likely extend next to the county trunk lines and finally to other remote areas of the town. The rate of tower construction will depend on local demand, the number of licenses granted by the FCC, and the capacity of new towers to accommodate additional carriers.

Electricity and Natural Gas

WE Energy provides electricity and natural gas service in the Town of Nekimi. The company has a long history of supplying safe, reliable and reasonably priced service to its customers. WE Energy serves more than one million electric customers in Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. In total, WE Energy's power plants produce 6,000 megawatts of generation from coal, natural gas, nuclear, hydroelectric and renewable energy facilities. WE Energy also purchases, distributes and sells natural gas to nearly one million retail customers in Wisconsin, including residents of the Town of Nekimi. There are two electric substations in the Town of Nekimi located along USH 41.

ANR Pipeline Company (ANR) is the pipeline source of the natural gas in the Town of Nekimi. ANR was the first interstate pipeline to deliver natural gas supplies to Wisconsin, and it currently delivers most of the natural gas consumed in the state. ANR operates and maintains five compressor stations, four warehouses, 130 meter stations and more than 1,700 miles of pipeline. In the **Town of Nekimi a 10' and 16" ANR Gas pipeline** run parallel to one another through the far eastern half of the town (see *Utilities and Community Facilities Map*).

WE Energy has no plans to expand the type or level of services offered in the Town of Nekimi. However, there is a power shortage issue in Northeast Wisconsin given the lack of a main east-west transmission line to serve the area. Efforts are currently underway to improve the situation by developing such a line. In the interim period and beyond, natural gas-fired electric peaking plants are being used to provide energy when demands exceed local supply capacities. A peaking plant of this type exists in the Town of Neenah and another plant is being considered for development in Winnebago County, possibly in the Town of Nekimi.

Cemeteries

Often overlooked, cemeteries are an important facility every community must provide. Currently, there are four cemeteries in the Town of Nekimi (See *Utilities and Community Facilities Map*).

- **Bethesda Church Cemetery Association, 479 Clairville Road.** This cemetery is located on Clairville Road in Ring. It has recently doubled in size. There are no additional plans for expansion.
- **Salem Cemetery, 1060 Clairville Road.** This cemetery is located on Clairville Road, south of the intersection of CTH N. It is approximately 1 acre in size and vacant space is available. The Town of Nekimi maintains the Salem Cemetery. There are no plans for future expansion.

- **Schellar Cemetery, 3270 CTH Z.** Located on the northeast corner of Knapp and CTH Z, this cemetery includes approximately 2 acres of property. The western portion of the cemetery is currently vacant. There are no plans to expand this cemetery.
- **Unnamed Family Cemetery, 515 Clay Road.** On the Corner of Clay Road and CTH Z is a small (approximately 4 plot) family cemetery. It has not been used in the last 100 years. There are no plans to expand this cemetery in the future.

Given historical plot demands, it is anticipated that area cemeteries have space to meet local needs for at least the next 20 years. In addition, town residents certainly may also use space available in public and private cemeteries located elsewhere in Winnebago County and beyond.

Health Care Facilities

There are **no health care facilities** located in the Town of Nekimi. However, given the Town of Nekimi's proximity to the City of Oshkosh, residents of the town have close access to primary and advanced specialty health care facilities. The population in the Town of Nekimi is not large enough to support its own hospital, primary care, or clinic facility. There are **three major medical centers located in the immediate area** serving the Town of Nekimi:

- Aurora Health Center, Oshkosh, WI
- Mercy Medical Center, Oshkosh, WI
- Mercy Oakwood Outpatient Medical Center, Oshkosh, WI



Mercy Medical Center, Oshkosh, WI

These facilities provide a range of primary and specialized medical services including: trauma care, neonatal care, rehabilitation, laser vision correction, orthopedic care, cardiac care and cancer treatment. Moreover, these facilities pride themselves on their efforts to maintain a quality care environment through continued efforts to improve facilities and services.

The **Aurora Health Care Center** expanded its facility to a full-service hospital to operate in conjunction with Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh as the two primary hospital facilities serving the area. The new Aurora Hospital includes 300,000 square feet of space to provide cardiac, emergency, and a host of other services to residents in need. The hospital employs 400 staff, including approximately 40 doctors.

Proponents of the new Aurora facility argued that it will create greater competition between medical providers. **Opponents** argued that the new hospital will not bring any additional services to the area. As a result of duplicated services, care costs will increase, due to competition for scarce medical personnel and the under use of expensive medical equipment. With the new Aurora facility, the area has 1.1 hospital beds per 1,000 people.

The state average is 3.7 beds per 1,000 people. These existing facilities are expected to meet all local health care needs for the next 20 years and beyond.

Childcare Facilities

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, of the town's 1,419 residents, **24.3 percent are under the age of 18**. This is a significant portion of the local population that has particular service demands (i.e. schools, parks, child care facilities). While school and park facilities are profiled elsewhere in this chapter, this section discusses childcare facilities available to residents of the Town of Nekimi.

There are **no commercial childcare facilities** located in the Town of Nekimi nor are there any plans to build such a facility. However, residents may have informal networks of child care (i.e. family or friends) and some residents may provide childcare from their home for their neighbors.



The **nearest commercial childcare centers to the Town of Nekimi are located in the City of Oshkosh**. There are dozens of childcare centers and other providers in the city. As the population grows, additional centers will likely be built to accommodate local demand. Space is available in the facilities currently serving the area, though the quantity of available space varies by location and time of year.

SENIOR CARE FACILITIES

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 158 people (11.1%) living in the Town of Nekimi were age 65 or over. Like youth populations, seniors also demand particular services and housing options to meet their specific needs.



The Town of Nekimi is fortunate in that it does have a senior housing facility which is profiled in the Housing Element. Town seniors who do not live in the facility, must be able to live independently and find assistance from family members, friends, and neighbors. There are programs serving Winnebago County that provide services and opportunities for older persons living in the Town of Nekimi. Most notably, the Winnebago County Elderly Services provides meal programs (i.e. meals on wheels), transportation services (i.e. dial-a-ride to doctor and other appointments and errands), programs to help with chores and home care, and a benefits specialist program for seniors having problems with private or government benefits such as Medicare and Social Security. These programs provide vital services that make independent living possible.

POLICE PROTECTION

The **Town of Nekimi does not have a police station or its own police department.** The **Winnebago County Sheriff's Office (WISO)** provides police protection services to the town. WISO provides 24-hour primary emergency response service to 49,926 county residents (2001 DOA Population Estimates). In addition, WISO provides back-up assistance to 107,325 residents of cities and villages within Winnebago County (2001 DOA Population Estimates).



Because there are three highways bisecting through the Town of Nekimi, police cruisers frequently patrol the town. In addition, the Nekimi Town Hall is used as a communication post by the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. Furthermore, state highway patrols also frequent the area.

In total, the Winnebago County Sheriff Department has **87 sworn personnel and a fleet of 25 patrol cars.** WISO minimum staffing requirements on the day shift is four patrol officers and one supervisor. The standard is the same for the night shift. On weekends (Friday and Saturday), an additional patrol officer is added to each shift. Response times for calls to the Town of Nekimi depend on where the nearest cruiser is located and how busy the force is at that moment. Generally, **response times range between 7 and 10 minutes.**

The detective division of WISO consists of one captain, one sergeant, and six detectives. One detective works with the Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG Unit) working on drug crimes, one detective works with Social Services on crimes against children and welfare fraud, while the other detectives work on all other crimes that occur in Winnebago County.

WISO has 87 officers to serve the City's 50,000 residents. Therefore, the County is operating slightly below the Wisconsin standard (93 officers required) and the FBI standard (100 officers required). The Department has no immediate plans to expand its office space or hire additional staff. However, the Department annually evaluates staff and space needs. The standards do not provide a guideline for on-duty officers in comparison to the total population. The actual on-duty ratio of protection is 1:10,000 Sunday - Thursday and 1:8,333 on Fridays and Saturdays.

POLICE PROTECTION STANDARDS

The **traditional Wisconsin standard** for small town/rural police protection is 1.86 officers per 1,000 population.

The **FBI recommended standard** is 2.0 officers per 1,000 population.



WISO also maintains 911 emergency response services throughout Winnebago County. The Winnebago County 911 Communications Center is located in the basement of the Public Safety Building at 420 Jackson Street. There are currently 31 full-time telecommunicators and one communications manager in this division. The 911 Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. There are three shifts per day with five or six telecommunicators on duty each shift. The

telecommunicators are responsible for answering 911 calls for the entire county.

WISO also maintains a **jail facility** at the intersection of HWY 45 and Y in the City of Oshkosh. This new facility has the capacity to serve 285 inmates (males, females and work release). The facility is expected to meet local needs for at least the next 10 years and probably more. The building has been designed in such a manner that additional capacity can be easily added.

In addition to basic protection and jail services, WISO also has a **Community Outreach Division**. This division of the department provides proactive crime prevention programs to the citizens of Winnebago County. The programs are designed to assist the citizens of the county in protecting themselves and their property from crimes. Officers in this division dedicate a great deal of their efforts to the safety and security of citizens, residents and businesses of Winnebago County. Some of the crime prevention programs include: Neighborhood Watch, Senior Citizens Police Academy, D.A.R.E. (Drug Awareness and Resistance Education) and G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education and Training).

The Community Outreach Division is also responsible for boat patrol, which includes all rescues of persons and property, enforcement of violations on the waterways and education of users of the waterways within Winnebago County. Patrol duties include emergencies, law enforcement, towing and removal of boats and navigation hazards. Areas of patrol or rescue include all navigable waters within and bordering Winnebago County. This responsibility is handled by three patrol boats manned by officers of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, along with Reserve Deputies and assistance by officers of the Neenah and Menasha Police Departments.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office also has an active **Snowmobile/ATV Enforcement Program**. Officers of the Sheriff's Office patrol frozen waterways and snowmobile trail systems of the county and enforce all laws pertaining to snowmobiles and ATV's. ATV's are not allowed on the county trail system but are allowed on frozen bodies of water. The Sheriff's Office has three ATV's and leases four (4) snowmobiles for the enforcement of this program.

When requested by the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department, the Town of Nekimi may also receive back-up assistance from the City of Oshkosh and other local police departments as local protocols define.

Fire Service

Police service is provided by the Winnebago County's Sheriff Department. Fire service is provided by the Nekimi Volunteer Fire Department, and the City of Oshkosh provides ambulance service.



The **Town of Nekimi Volunteer Fire Department** was established in 1939 to serve the Town of Nekimi. This department provides on-call volunteer based fire and first responders service to residents in need. The Town of Nekimi Volunteer Fire Department participates in a county-wide mutual aid agreement and also has a mutual aid agreement with the City of Oshkosh. These agreements allow the town to call on additional service from neighboring communities, including the City of Oshkosh, should the need arise.



The fire station is located on the same property as the Town Hall. (See *Utilities and Community Facilities Map*). The department has 36 trained volunteer firefighters. Since 1997, the town has also had first responder volunteers. Currently, the town has **9 trained first responder volunteers**. These individuals are prepared to provide initial medical assistance with appropriate equipment until an ambulance can reach the scene.

The fire department provides 911-based emergency service. The response time within the Town of Nekimi varies depending on the location of the call and the time of day. Typical response times average between 2-3 minutes.

The department has a variety of **specialized equipment** to meet both fire and first-responder service needs. The fire department currently has the following equipment inventory:

- 3,000-Gallon International Fire Engine Truck (1997) - this truck has foam capabilities for 2,100 gallons
- 1,000-Gallon Engine Truck purchased in the 1970s
- 3,000-Gallon Tanker Truck (water tanker only)
- 1,200-Gallon Tanker Truck
- Pumper Truck (1964)
- Utility Truck (1990) to carry grass suites, water packs (for grass fires), rakes, extinguishers, exhaust fans, fuel cans and additional air tanks, boots, helmets, coats and saws

In 2001, the **Insurance Services Office (ISO)** rated fire protection service to the Town of Nekimi as an 8 (out of 10 with 1 being the best). The ISO issues "fire protection"

ratings and classifications across the United States. Most insurance underwriters utilize the assigned fire protection rating to calculate residential, commercial and industrial insurance premiums. Fire Districts are evaluated on a cyclical basis that is determined by district growth and the size of the population served. For a volunteer department, without hydrants, but with strong mutual aid agreements, the 8 rating is very good.

The Nekimi Volunteer Fire Department annually considers needs for additional equipment and vehicle replacement and upgrades during the annual town budget process. In 2002, the department replaced a 1964 utility truck with the 1990 unit. Currently, the department is in the process of pursuing the replacement of the town's 1,200-gallon tanker. The town would like to replace this tanker with a newer model with a 3,000-gallon capacity. The Town of Nekimi Fire Department has no additional plans for equipment purchases in the near future (5 years). The Town Board has a strong record of supporting requests made by the department for additional equipment and vehicles.

In the long-term (10-15 years), the Town of Nekimi Volunteer Fire Department may need to expand the fire station to accommodate an additional apparatus bay. To mitigate this need, the department will seek to better utilize the adjacent town hall facility to conduct its training and staff meetings. Currently, the department is holding many of its meetings in an apparatus bay of the fire station. Any plans for building expansion will be carefully considered based on need, and presented to the Town Board for approval.

At this time, based on the local population size, the amount of equipment serving the area is adequate to meet all local needs. Therefore, there are no plans to expand the fleet of vehicles serving the area. The greatest long-term challenge for the fire department is to maintain an adequate force of volunteers. The department has seen its volunteer numbers steadily decrease in recent years.

Libraries

The Town of Nekimi is located within the **Winnefox Library System (WLS)**. Established in 1977, WLS is a public library system serving *Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago Counties*. Thirty (30) public libraries, serving a population of over 290,000, are members of the system. Through WLS, all residents of the five-county area have access to the shared catalog of over 500,000 items owned by the Winnefox libraries and services provided by any member library. Of the seventeen public library systems in Wisconsin, Winnefox libraries rank first in the state in per capita circulation. WLS is funded primarily by state aids. System services include interlibrary loan, delivery, backup reference, consulting, continuing education for library staff, planning and support for library technology, and other assistance. The Oshkosh Library, located at 106 Washington Avenue, is the nearest facility to the Town of Oshkosh and also the resource library for the Winnefox system. The Winnefox Library provides bookmobile service to the entire township.

All of the libraries in WLS are part of a web catalogue that can be accessed 24 hours a day from the Internet. **WISCAT** is the statewide bibliographic database and catalogue for Wisconsin. It contains 6.7 million bibliographic records with local holdings statements

for 1,270 libraries of all types throughout Wisconsin. The libraries listed in WISCAT are willing to loan many of the materials through established statewide interlibrary loan channels. WISCAT has been on-line since the summer of 2000. Users simply connect to the Internet web page, search for the materials they are interested in, and place a hold on those materials so that they can be picked up during regular library hours.

Town residents also have access to the **Forrest R. Polk Library on the campus of UW-Oshkosh**. This facility offers an extensive collection of materials easily accessible via an on-line catalogue. The Polk Library also participates in an interlibrary loan program with the Winnefox Libraries so residents can obtain Polk Library materials through other local libraries.



The City of Oshkosh Library also operates a bookmobile that serves the Town of Nekimi

Given the improved access to resources via the bookmobile, web catalogue and the interlibrary loan program, in addition to the resources the internet makes available to town residents and the continual planning efforts for future library services coordinated by Winnefox, it is anticipated that library services will be adequate to meet future demands over the next 20 years.

Schools

The vast majority of the Town of Nekimi is served by the **Oshkosh Area School District**, with Green Meadow Elementary School located within the town's boundaries on CTH N. Green Meadow is a small elementary school with less than 125 students currently enrolled. The Oshkosh Area School District covers 102 square miles of eastern Winnebago County, Wisconsin. The district includes all of the City of Oshkosh and Town of Black Wolf, as well as parts of the Towns of Algoma, Nekimi, Oshkosh, Utica and Vinland.

In all, the Oshkosh Area School District has seventeen elementary schools, five middle schools, two high schools, an outdoor education facility, a maintenance building, a recreation gymnasium, and the Alberta Kimball Auditorium. Enrollment figures exceed 10,700 students. The school district recreation department administers district-wide recreation programs for children and adults. The district has no plans to build additional facilities in the Town of Nekimi.

One family in the Town of Nekimi is located in the **Omro School District**, and another family is located in the **Rosendale-Brandon School District**.

Beyond the public schools, there are private schools operating in the City of Oshkosh and other nearby communities that welcome town residents who desire their services. All of these schools provide a faith-based education to their students. The students attending these schools do have the option of attending local public schools. Expansions and

improvements to these facilities are subject to the financial obligations and capacities of the sponsoring church.

TABLE 20 PRIVATE SCHOOLS		
School Name	Location	School Type (Grades)
Grace Lutheran	913 Nebraska Street, Oshkosh	Elementary (K-8)
Lourdes High	110 N. Sawyer Street, Oshkosh	High School (9-12)
Martin Luther	1526 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh	Elementary (K-8)
Oshkosh Christian	3450 Vinland Rd., Oshkosh	Elementary (K-8)
Saint Elizabeth Seton	1207 Oregon Street, Oshkosh	Elementary (PreK-5)
Saint Frances Cabrini	619 Merritt Ave., Oshkosh	Elementary (PreK-5)
Saint John Neumann Middle	110 N. Sawyer Street, Oshkosh	Middle School (6-8)
Trinity Lutheran	819 School Ave, Oshkosh	Elementary (K-8)
Valley Christian	3450 Vinland Road, Oshkosh	(K-12)
Wyldeewood Christian	3030 Witzel Road, Oshkosh	Elementary (K-8)

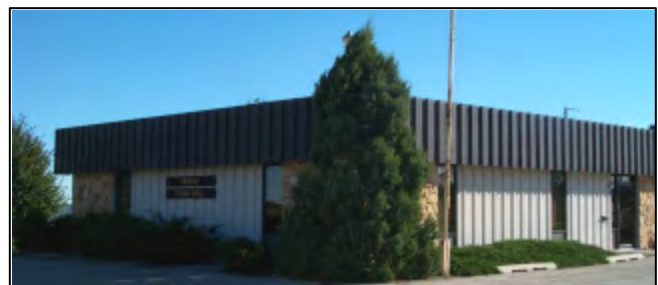
Source: Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, November 2001



UW-Oshkosh. The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is one of 13 four-year colleges and universities that are part of the University of Wisconsin System. UW-Oshkosh has a strong heritage and tradition of students and services dating back 130 years. Today, the campus provides a wide variety of fully accredited academic programs to its nearly 11,000 students. The campus has 19 buildings including: residence halls, a library, medical center, nursing college, sports complex and university center.

Town Facilities

Town facilities generally include such things as fire stations, meeting halls and any equipment. The Nekimi Town Hall, which was constructed in 1971, is located on Pickett Road just east of STH 26. It is located on a 4.5-acre parcel. This facility is available to all town residents for meetings. The surrounding land is considered the Nekimi Town Park and is available for picnics and other events.



Utilities and Community Facilities Map

The *Utilities and Community Facilities Map* provided on the next page illustrates the location of utilities and community facilities in the Town of Nekimi. The map outlines the school district boundaries and identifies the location of the Town Hall, fire station and other community facilities serving the town.

Utilities and Community Facilities Trends

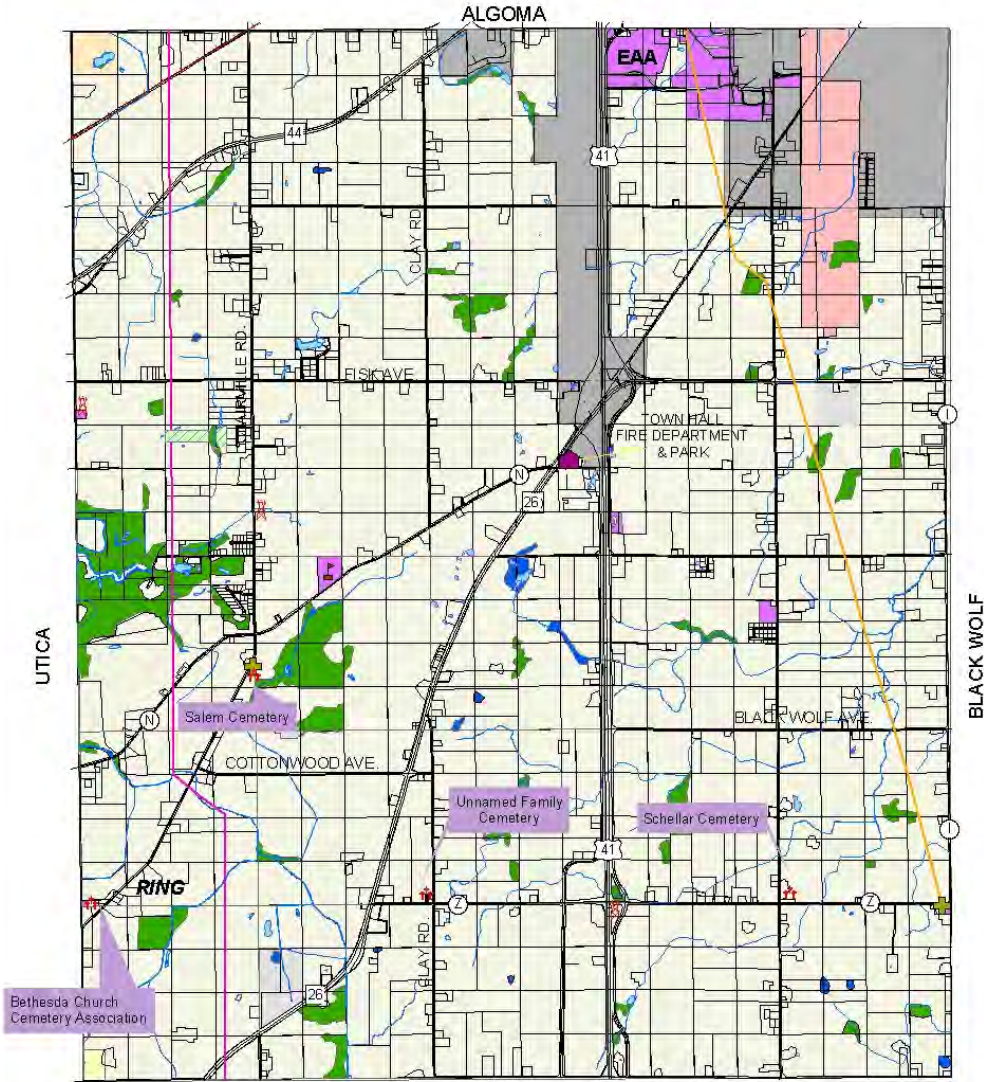
The information in the inventory portion of this chapter clearly demonstrates that the Town of Nekimi enjoys an array of utility and community facility services. These utilities and community facilities are expected to continue at current service levels for the life of this plan. There are no major planned or predicted changes to utilities and community facilities serving residents of the Town of Nekimi, with the possible exception of wireless communication towers and support structures. All of the major utility and community facility providers – police, fire, utilities, schools, etc. – have procedures in place to monitor local demand and adjust their services/facilities as necessary to meet local needs.

Land Use Trends

A trend in Winnebago County, and many other areas in Wisconsin, is the decrease in the number of family farms. This phenomenon is the result of many different factors, including minimal profit margins. Also, as baby-boomers age, they are retiring from farming and having a more difficult time finding people who are willing to continue to farm their land. The modern economy is driving youth to cities where jobs offer security, vacation and retirement plans that a farming lifestyle cannot provide.

Annexation also continues to be a threat to the Town of Nekimi. It serves as a disincentive for development adjacent to the City of Oshkosh where utilities and community facilities are readily available. This is because the City of Oshkosh has a history of annexing town development that is adjacent to the City, particularly if public sewer is desired. This annexation trend may lead to sprawling development patterns as the Town of Nekimi seeks additional commercial and industrial development to support the local tax base in areas away from the town's shared boundaries with the City of Oshkosh. This pattern may result in less efficient development patterns, which will increase the potential for land use conflicts and requires costly extensions of local utilities and community facilities. A more desirable option would be to establish a boundary agreement, shared tax revenue plan, or other form of intergovernmental agreement between the City of Oshkosh and Town of Nekimi to plan for annexation and the impacts thereof.

UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES TOWN OF NEKIMI



OMNI
ASSOCIATES

PROJECT # M1050A01
DATE: 7/15/2002
DRAWN BY: KAL
REVISED: 9/17/2002

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Location: F:\MUNICIPAL\JOBS\M1050A01\GIS\Nekimi\Utilities_1.txd
Source: WINNEBAGO COUNTY GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (OWINGS DATA)
WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Legend

- RIVERS & STREAMS
- RIGHT-OF-WAY
- ANR GAS PIPELINE
- OVERHEAD POWER LINES
- TRAIN TRACKS
- AIR TRAVEL
- NON-METALLIC MINING SITES
- OPEN WATER
- CITY OF OSHKOSH
- UTILITIES AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
- WETLANDS
- WILDERNESS AREA/RECREATION
- OSHKOSH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
- ROSENDALE/BRANDON SCHOOL DISTRICT
- OMRO SCHOOL DISTRICT
- TOWERS
- CHURCH
- CEMETERY
- SCHOOL
- COMMUNITY FACILITY



Wireless Communication Industry Trends

Americans are using their cellular phones, pagers, e-mails, and other wireless communication devices more and more frequently. To meet this incredible demand, towers need to be built where people live or travel. In the Town of Nekimi, this means the USH 41, STH 26 and STH 44 corridors. To enjoy the opportunity to use cellular phones and other wireless technologies, towers are necessary. Therefore, until cost-effective alternative methods are found to meet cellular service demands, towers are likely to be a part of the future landscape of the Town of Nekimi. In fact, the wireless industry expects construction of towers to increase with the advent of the wireless Internet service and other PDA (Personal Data Access) devices. Wireless Internet service will require more towers because this form of technology operates at a very high frequency. Whereas today's digital phone towers require towers every 2-3 miles, wireless Internet service requires towers every ¼ mile. Fortunately, these towers are shorter (typically around 80 feet) and therefore can blend into the landscape in much the same way as utility poles do today.

As described in Chapter 1, the Town of Nekimi is a rural community. With a relatively small population, the town's residents cannot create a major demand for cellular service alone. Likewise, with only limited population increases expected, this level of local demand is not expected to significantly increase. However, because USH 41, STH 26 and STH 44 traverse through the town, motorists using these corridors will continue to use and demand additional cellular services. Moreover, since the FCC, through the provisions of the 1996 Telecommunication Act, is seeking to establish a network of competitive service providers throughout the country, the likely result will be additional towers in the Town of Nekimi.

The Town of Nekimi wants to maintain its rural character and preserve the town's aesthetic appeal. At the same time, the town would like to ensure that residents maintain their current level of utility and community facility services. Moreover, these services should be provided at a minimum cost to the town. These desires, which actually serve as growth and development policies for the town, drive decisions related to land use, utilities and community facilities.

Unfortunately, these desires can conflict with the provision of towers in the Town of Nekimi. To overcome this apparent conflict, the town will need to work with local providers to pursue alternative tower locations and the use of stealth techniques to camouflage towers located in the Town of Nekimi.

Technological Innovations

There is probably nothing more difficult to predict than technological innovations. Future innovations will dictate Town of Nekimi responses based on land use plans and the natural environment. For instance, ten years ago no one would have predicted the impact of the Internet on society. Twenty years ago, BETA technology was thought to be the wave of the future. The point is clear, technology is an ever-changing force that can

have a significant impact on our lives. There are several technologies that are likely to become “the next big thing” to impact the Town of Nekimi. What follows is a profile of each.

Energy Crisis

The recent blackouts and brownouts in California bring to light the energy crisis America is facing. This problem will not fade away and will require every unit of government to address energy needs in a way that is both cost effective and efficient. If and when the town receives applications to construct or install the technologies described below, the town may consult with special experts to ensure that the application of these technologies will not jeopardize public health, safety and welfare. Town policies should reflect that all reasonable costs and expenses associated with such consultations shall be borne by the applicant.

Wind Power

Wind power has some potential as an alternative energy source. Unlike fossil fuel dependent technologies, wind power does not pollute the environment. Future, more intensive use of this technology will depend on unit cost reductions. One of the nearest successful examples of wind power in Wisconsin is found along Highway 41 south of Fond du Lac. Here, Wisconsin Energies (WE) has two low-speed wind turbines operating. The turbines began operation June 14, 1999.



*Wisconsin Energies
Wind Turbines
Fond du Lac County, WI*

Depending on wind speeds, each turbine is designed to produce a maximum flow of 660 kilowatts of electricity, enough electricity to supply about 300 homes with energy. During the course of a year, the wind turbines will generate approximately 3,450 megawatt-hours of electricity. If that power were produced using conventional fossil fuels, there would be 1,956 tons of carbon dioxide emissions; the equivalent of 260 people driving sport utility vehicles for a year.

There are proponents and opponents to the use of wind power. If this technology were to be seriously pursued in the town, officials must pay careful attention to visual impact on township. Moreover, migratory bird patterns should also be considered before placing a windmill in the Town of Nekimi. Standards restricting location, height, noise and other issues with respect to the turbines should be included as conditions to any approval to minimize potential impacts on neighboring property owners.

If the above concerns can be adequately addressed, wind power can play a viable role in the energy mix to meet future town needs.

Natural Gas Peaking Plants

Electric power demand in northeast Wisconsin has significantly increased over the past decade. In a number of incidents since 1997, various residential and commercial

customers have been threatened with blackouts and/or brownouts during peak use periods (usually summer periods). This problem has also been compounded by routine power plant maintenance and unforeseen plant shutdowns. In the fall of 1997, the Public Service Commission determined that there was need to add additional electric power generation in the state by June 1, 2001. WE was ordered to supply 250 megawatts of power of the projected 550-megawatt need. The Electric Power Reliability Act (1997 Wisconsin Act 204) supported the PSC plan and provided a schedule for implementation.

In order to comply with this order, WE entered into a contract with SEI Wisconsin LLC (a subsidiary of Southern Energy, Inc.). Under the terms of the contract, SEI constructed a natural gas-fired peaking energy facility in the Town of Neenah, Wisconsin. Future needs for the Oshkosh area may also dictate a peaking plant be constructed in the area. In addition to traditional location requirements (zoning, noise, etc.) two specific questions must be addressed before a plant can be located in the town.

- Will the natural gas supply be plentiful enough to accommodate the needs of existing homes and businesses in addition to a new power plant?
- Can the cooling needs of the power plant be supplied while not adversely affecting groundwater supplies?

Internet (Cable Connection Service)

In the not too distant future, the Town of Nekimi may see increasing demand for improved internet speed and connection services, as the internet gains significance in the personal and professional lives of residents. It has been widely predicted that the internet will become a staple in the lives of Americans over the next 10 years in much the same way as the television is a staple in every household. Unlike the television, which is an entertainment device, the internet has the power to change the way people communicate with one another, shop, find entertainment, and work (telecommuting).

Wireless Internet

Wireless internet access is just beginning to become available in Wisconsin. As this technology becomes more popular, its demand will likely increase. This service will require additional towers and antennas in the Town of Nekimi. Some proponents of this technology have gone so far as to predict that in the next 15 years the wireless internet will become as popular as the telephone is today.

High Definition Television

High definition television is here. This has resulted in additional towers – at existing television tower locations -- to support this improved technology. Fortunately, the Town of Nekimi does not have a television tower located within its jurisdiction so it may be able to avoid the erection of towers for this purpose within the town boundaries.

Medical Advances

Advances in medical technologies are clearly helping people to live longer, more productive lives. Medical facilities need to have the capability to accept and integrate new technologies and practices in their scope of care. The facilities serving the Town of Nekimi consider technological innovations the cornerstone to their success. Therefore, they will likely integrate more and more medical advances in local treatment options. This will result in improved medical care and longer lifespan for residents of the Town of Nekimi.

Utilities and Community Facilities Funding Options

Many of the utilities and community facilities serving the Town of Nekimi are provided by other governments and agencies (i.e. county and school districts). As such, they are funded through their general budgets and funding through tax revenues and referendums.

The Town of Nekimi is constantly seeking opportunities to finance needed utilities and community facilities. There are numerous grant and loan programs that the town may seek to help finance needed improvements. These programs are available through the State of Wisconsin and the U.S. Federal Government. What follows is a description of some of the major opportunities available to the town. A major obstacle facing the town when seeking these funds is the town's relatively high median household income. This situation hinders its ability to receiving some forms of funding that are based on community need.

Water and Wastewater Grant and Loan Program

The USDA Rural Development (Rural Utility Service) has a water and wastewater grant and loan program to assist cities, villages, tribes, sanitary districts, and towns in rural areas with a population up to 10,000. The program provides loans and grants to construct, improve, or modify municipal drinking water and wastewater systems, storm sewers, and solid waste disposal facilities.

Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant Program

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce administers the Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant Program to provide cities, villages and towns with a population of less than 50,000 and all counties except Milwaukee, Dane and Waukesha to obtain matching grants for the installation, upgrade or expansion of municipal drinking water and wastewater systems. For the 2002 funding year, approximately \$10 million will be available. Successful applications are based on a distress score, documentation of need, ability to repay, matching fund availability and project readiness.

State Trust Fund Loan Program

The Board of Commissioners of Public Lands provides this loan program with terms of up to 20 years and deeply discounted interest rates. Loans may be used for a variety of purposes including: road improvements, community centers/halls, trail development, and property acquisition. The funds available fluctuate annually. The current annual loan limit is \$3,000,000.

Rural Development Community Facility Grants

The USDA Rural Development also offers grants to communities seeking to build or improve their community buildings (i.e. halls, libraries, community center, and fire departments). These grants are awarded to communities with a population up to 10,000 based on a competitive application process.

State Stewardship Fund

The Stewardship Fund is the State of Wisconsin's land acquisition program for public outdoor recreation and habitat protection. Administered by the Department of Natural Resources, the fund makes millions of dollars a year available to buy land for parks, trails, habitat areas, hunting grounds and local parks and for site improvements, like trail building and campgrounds.

Fire Administration Grants

The Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) offers over \$100,000,000 in annual grant awards to fire departments in six specific areas: training, fitness programs, vehicles, firefighting equipment, and Fire Prevention Programs. Applicants from communities, which serve a population of less than 50,000, must provide a 10% match.

Clean Water Fund

The Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) is one of the subsidized loan programs included in the Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF). The CWFP provides loans to municipalities for wastewater treatment and urban storm water projects.

Coordination with Other Comprehensive Plan Elements

Utilities and community facilities can dictate future planning for a community if capacity, location, and services are not adequate to support development. Therefore, it is important to inventory existing utilities and community facilities and understand how utilities and community facilities will be provided over the planning period. Furthermore, utilities and community facilities have a direct impact on the other elements of the comprehensive plan. In particular, the Housing, Economic Development, Land Use, and Intergovernmental Coordination Elements are most directly impacted by utilities and community facilities.

Housing

Improvements such as roads, sewer, water, parks, recreational facilities and schools all need to be coordinated with the housing decisions and vice versa. The best method to coordinate improvements is to follow the land use patterns presented on the *Future Land Use Maps* as closely as possible and plan for future improvements. This approach will greatly enhance the efficiency of capital improvements expenditures. To provide further assistance in these efforts, the town may consider the use of a capital improvement plan as a tool to help organize and plan for future capital expenditures.

Economic Development

The availability of utilities like sewer, water, electricity and communications services directly impacts the type of economic development opportunities that are available. The goals and objectives of this chapter seek to maintain, and where feasible, improve local utilities and community facilities to improve economic development opportunities in the Town of Nekimi.

Land Use Element

Land use dictates the need for utilities and community facilities. Inversely, the availability of utilities and community facilities can dictate where development can occur. The *Future Land Use Maps* were developed after careful consideration of where needed utilities and community facilities are now available, or will be available within the planning period and capacities of existing facilities (i.e. schools).

Intergovernmental Coordination

As is obvious from this chapter, utilities and community facilities are not provided solely by the Town of Nekimi. Utilities and community facilities that serve the area are provided by Winnebago County, private companies and neighboring communities. It is important that utilities and community facilities continue to effectively serve the Town of Nekimi. Therefore, continued coordination is essential to ensure that development in the Town of Nekimi is compatible with local utility and community facility capacities. Goals and objectives included in this chapter, as well as the Intergovernmental Coordination Element, support continued coordination to efficiently provide needed utilities and community facilities to the Town of Nekimi.

Goals and Objectives

The Town of Nekimi, Winnebago County, the local school districts, and private companies have made significant investments in infrastructure, including roads, parks, wastewater collection and treatment facilities, electric and natural gas distribution, and other facilities needed to serve the population base. To support these capital investments and to ensure that tax dollars are used in the most efficient manner possible, the Town of Nekimi seeks to direct development to areas where these serves are presently available or easily extended. The following goals will help to ensure that this vision can become a reality.

OVERALL GOALS

1. Support the continued operation of community facilities provided by Winnebago County, City of Oshkosh, local school districts, private companies and other neighboring communities, which serve residents of the Town of Nekimi.
2. Seek to ensure that all development is served by adequate utilities.

UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES OBJECTIVES

1. As desirable, issue permits for innovative waste treatment systems (pursuant to the requirements of COMM 83) that will provide safe and effective results for commercial development opportunities near STH 44 and STH 26.
2. Work with Winnebago County, and if necessary adopt a town policy and supporting zoning requirements, to encourage developers to consider alternative waste treatment systems in support of innovative subdivision designs (i.e. cluster and conservation subdivisions).
3. Seek to inform residents of the Town of Nekimi about available community facilities in the area through a community newsletter and web site, particularly to ensure that populations in need can obtain services.
4. Coordinate with Winnebago County to ensure that the county cellular tower ordinance provides adequate protection and provisions for the Town of Nekimi. The ordinance should encourage co-location, stealth technologies, and other techniques to minimize the visual impact of cellular towers. Furthermore, the ordinance should address policies with respect to the location of towers on town property.
5. Complete all requirements stipulated by the EPA Storm Water Phase II Regulations in accordance with Federal and State Laws. As part of this effort, continue to coordinate with Winnebago County, UW-Extension and the WDNR.

POLICIES

It is the policy of the Town of Nekimi to support the efficient provision of services by promoting development densities in accordance with the adopted Town of Nekimi Subdivision Ordinance.

It is the policy of the Town of Nekimi to ensure that development is provided with available utilities.

It is the policy of the Town of Nekimi to ensure that residents are aware of available community facilities and services.