

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Many cities, townships, villages, and counties begin cooperative arrangements to lower costs and promote efficiency. Most arrangements involve only two governmental units, but there are also agreements among multiple units. Intergovernmental cooperation may range from formal joint power agreements to unwritten understandings. Two cities may have an unwritten agreement about sharing road repair equipment, or a cluster of cities and townships may have a written agreement concerning snow removal or economic development. The opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation are endless.

This section takes a closer look at intergovernmental cooperation including advantages and disadvantages. It examines what Iowa County is doing today and what they may consider in the future. Intergovernmental cooperation is an effective way for local governments to respond to changing and diverse needs by working together with their neighbors, while maintaining their own identity. If an agreement can be reached among two or more units of government, services can often be provided with substantial cost savings. Cooperation can also eliminate unnecessary duplication of services or purchasing of equipment.



Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(g)

(g) Intergovernmental cooperation element.

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for joint planning and decision making with other jurisdictions, including school districts and adjacent local governmental units, for siting and building public facilities and sharing public services. The element shall analyze the relationship of the local governmental unit to school districts and adjacent local governmental units, and to the region, the state and other governmental units. The element shall incorporate any plans or agreements to which the local governmental unit is a party under [s. 66.0301](#), [66.0307](#) or [66.0309](#). The element shall identify existing or potential conflicts between the local governmental unit and other governmental units that are specified in this paragraph and describe processes to resolve such conflicts.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION POLICIES

The following are the intergovernmental cooperation policies (not in order of priority) for Iowa County.

1. Maintain established intergovernmental relationships.

Iowa County does share some services with other jurisdictions and this should be continued as long as they are beneficial.

2. Explore new opportunities to cooperate with other local units of government.

As costs continue to rise for providing many facilities and services, the exploration of additional ways to cooperate may prove to be beneficial in order to contain costs.

3. Establish written intergovernmental cooperation agreements.

Often time, intergovernmental cooperation agreements are established based on verbal agreements. Changes in leadership can cause problems with agreements if the specifics have not been identified in writing. It may prove to be beneficial to have all intergovernmental agreements in writing to avoid any disputes or misunderstandings.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS

A good working relationship between neighbors is important. Good intergovernmental communication and cooperation can benefit everyone. A good relationship with interjurisdictional county, regional, and state entities can provide economical, environmental, and political advantages for a jurisdiction. Best of all, a positive intergovernmental relationship fosters and supports a sense of community and good fellowship. Table G.1 shows Iowa County jurisdiction’s rating of its intergovernmental relationships with various governmental units. (Non-participating jurisdictions are not shown in the Section. They include the Town of Brigham and the Villages of Barneveld, Livingston, Montfort, Muscoda, and Rewey.)

TABLE G.1: IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTION’S INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIP RATINGS

City of Dodgeville	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)			X		
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific)		X			
Wisconsin DNR		X			
Wisconsin DOT	X				
Wisconsin DOC			X		
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)			X		
Local School District (general)		X			
City of Mineral Point	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)					
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific)					
Wisconsin DNR					
Wisconsin DOT					
Wisconsin DOC					
UW Extension					
Iowa County (general)					
Iowa County (specific)					
Local School District (general)					
Other					

TABLE G.1 (cont.): IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTION’S INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIP RATINGS

Iowa County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)					
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific)					
Wisconsin DNR					
Wisconsin DOT					
Wisconsin DOC					
UW Extension					
Iowa County (general)					
Iowa County (specific)					
Local School District (general)					
Other					
Town of Arena	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)		X			
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Village of Arena, Towns of Clyde and Wyoming		X			
Wisconsin DNR		X			
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC					X
UW Extension					X
Iowa County (general)		X			
Iowa County (specific)		X			
Local School District – River Valley, Wisconsin Heights		X			
Town of Clyde	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (Wyoming, Highland, Dodgeville, and Pulaski)		X			
Wisconsin DNR		X			
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC					
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)			X		
Iowa County (Highway Dept., Planning and Zoning)		X			
Local School District (River Valley, Highland, Riverdale)	X				
Town of Dodgeville	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – City of Dodgeville, bordering Towns		X			
Wisconsin DNR			X		
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC		X			
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)		X			
Iowa County (specific) – Zoning, Transportation		X			
Local School District – Dodgeville. The Town and the School District work together on snow planning issues, bus “turn-arounds”, and road signage.		X			
Town of Eden	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)	X				
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Village of Cobb, Town of Highland (road maintenance)	X				
Wisconsin DNR			X		
Wisconsin DOT	X				
Wisconsin DOC					X
UW Extension					X
Iowa County (general)		X			
Local School District– Dodgeville, Highland and Iowa-Grant. Eden’s joint fire district serves the school district and provides road maintenance.		X			
Other – Cobb/Eden Fire District and Dodgeville, Highland, and Montfort ambulance services.	X				

TABLE G.1 (cont.): IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTION'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIP RATINGS

Town of Highland	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)		X			
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Village of Highland, Towns of Eden, Castle Rock, Pulaski, Wingville, and Clyde		X			
Wisconsin DNR		X			
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC		X			
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)		X			
Iowa County (specific)		X			
Local School District – Dodgeville, Highland, Iowa-Grant, Riverdale. Town keeps road clear of snow and ice for school bus travel, determining when there is school in bad weather. The election process for school board members in each district is also an example of the good working relationship the Town enjoys with the surrounding school districts.		X			
Other – Southwest Wisconsin Technical College		X			
Town of Linden	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Town of Mifflin, Village of Linden		X			
Wisconsin DNR		X			
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC					X
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)		X			
Iowa County (specific) – Roads, bridges, Sheriff Dept.		X			
Local School District (general)					X
Other – Fire protection from Cobb, Dodgeville, and Mineral Pt.		X			
Town of Mifflin	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)		X			
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Linden, Livingston, Rewey, Eden		X			
Wisconsin DNR					X
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC					X
UW Extension	X				
Iowa County (general)			X		
Iowa County (specific)- Zoning, Highways (rated respectively)	X		X		
Local School District – Iowa –Grant.			X		
Town of Mineral Point	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)					
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific)					
Wisconsin DNR					
Wisconsin DOT					
Wisconsin DOC					
UW Extension					
Iowa County (general)					
Iowa County (specific)					
Local School District (general)					
Other					

TABLE G.1 (cont.): IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTION'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIP RATINGS

Town of Moscow	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)		X			
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Villages of Hollandale and Blanchardville and Towns of Blanchard, Brigham, Perry Waldwick, and York		X			
Wisconsin DNR		X			
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC					X
UW Extension	X				
Iowa County (general)		X			
Iowa County (specific) – Highway, Zoning (rated respectively)		X	X		
Local School District (general) – Town works in conjunction with Pecos School District, keeping roads in good condition, providing safety to school buses.					
Local School District (Pecos)	X				
Local School District (Mt. Horeb)		X			
Town of Pulaski	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)		X			
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Village of Avoca, City of Muscoda, Towns of Clyde, Highland, and Muscoda		X			
Wisconsin DNR			X		
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC					X
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)			X		
Iowa County (specific) – Highway, Sheriff		X			
Local School District – Highland, Riverdale		X			
Other –Muscoda, Avoca, Highland Fire Districts (rated respectively)		X		X	
Town of Ridgeway	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Village of Ridgeway, Town of Brigham	X				
Wisconsin DNR					
Wisconsin DOT	X				
Wisconsin DOC					
UW Extension	X				
Iowa County (general)					
Iowa County (specific) –Planning and Zoning, County Treasurer	X				
Local School District – Barneveld, Dodgeville, River Valley	X				
Town of Waldwick	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (Town of Mineral Point, City of Mineral Point, Village of Hollandale, Town of Moscow)	X				
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific)					
Wisconsin DNR	X				
Wisconsin DOT	X				
Wisconsin DOC					X
UW Extension	X				
Iowa County (Highway Department)	X				
Iowa County (Zoning)			X		
Local School District (Mineral Point, Pecos)	X				
Other (Fire Departments of Hollandale and Mineral Point)	X				
Other (Iowa County Conservation Department)			X		

TABLE G.1 (cont.): IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTION'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIP RATINGS

Town of Wyoming	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Towns of Arena, Clyde, Dodgeville, Spring Green, and Village of Spring Green	X				
Wisconsin DNR	X				
Wisconsin DOT	X				
Wisconsin DOC	X				
UW Extension	X				
Iowa County (general)	X				
Iowa County (specific) –Planning and Zoning, Sheriff Dept., Highway	X				
Local School District – Dodgeville, River Valley. The Town works with them to facilitate timely snow plowing and sanding on bus routes. Town exchanges newsletters w/school district.		X			
Other – Spring Green Fire District, Dodgeville Fire and Ambulance	X				
Village of Arena	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions – Mazomanie	X				
Adjacent jurisdictions – Black Earth	X				
Wisconsin DNR					
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC		X			
UW Extension	X				
Iowa County Dept. or Commission of Nurses		X			
Iowa County Sheriff Department			X		
Local School District – River Valley		X			
Other – MATC		X			
Village of Avoca	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)					
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Towns of Clyde & Pulaski		X			
Wisconsin DNR					
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC					
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)		X			
Iowa County (specific)					
Local School District - Riverdale. Students use the Village Hall gym for summer band. Other arrangements between the Village and School District are on an "as need" basis		X			
Other – Southwest Wisconsin Technical College		X			
Village of Blanchardville	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) - Towns of Blanchard, Moscow, York, Villages of Argyle and Hollandale		X			
Wisconsin DNR			X		
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC		X			
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)		X			
Iowa County (specific) – Sheriff Dept., Highway Dept.		X			
Local School District – Pecatonica		X			

TABLE G.1 (cont.): IOWA COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIP RATINGS

Village of Highland	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (general)		X			
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific)		X			
Wisconsin DNR			X		
Wisconsin DOT			X		
Wisconsin DOC			X		
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)		X			
Iowa County (specific)		X			
Local School District – Highland Schools		X			
Village of Hollandale	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Town of Moscow, Village of Blanchardville		X			
Wisconsin DNR		X			
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC	X				
UW Extension			X		
Iowa County (general)		X			
Iowa County (specific) – Highway Dept.		X			
Local School District – Pocatonica.		X			
Village of Linden	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions (specific) – Town of Linden		X			
Wisconsin DNR		X			
Wisconsin DOT		X			
Wisconsin DOC		X			
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)		X			
Local School District – Iowa-Grant. Allows school to use Park ball field		X			
Village of Ridgeway	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Adjacent jurisdictions – Town of Ridgeway			X		
Wisconsin DNR		X			
Wisconsin DOT					X
Wisconsin DOC					X
UW Extension		X			
Iowa County (general)			X		
Local School District (general)				X	
Other – Barneveld Ambulance Service			X		

Many Iowa County jurisdictions currently share certain services with neighboring jurisdictions. Table G.2 specifies areas of cooperation in each city, town, and village.

TABLE G.2: EXISTING AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdiction	Areas of Cooperation	Shared With?
City of Dodgeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection and Ambulance Services • Police Protection • Road Maintenance and Equipment • Sanitary District • Boundary Agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared between the City and Town of Dodgeville. • Shares police services with Iowa County. • Shares cost of road maintenance supplies/equipment with Iowa County. Shared Roadway Agreement with Town of Dodgeville. • City and Town of Dodgeville share a sanitary district. • City and Town of Dodgeville shared boundary agreement.

TABLE G.2 (cont): EXISTING AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdiction	Areas of Cooperation	Shared With?
City of Mineral Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and Rescue • School System • Law Enforcement • Library System • Highway Maintenance • Community Facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shares fire and rescue services between the City and Town of Mineral Point, Village of Linden, Town of Waldwick, and City of Dodgeville. • School system shares teams/athletic programs with City of Dodgeville. • Shares law enforcement with Iowa County, City of Dodgeville. • Shares library services with Town of Mineral Point, Iowa County, City of Dodgeville, and Town of Waldwick. • Shares highway maintenance services with Town of Mineral Point and Iowa County. • Shares community facilities with Town of Mineral Point.
Iowa County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Department Quarterly Meeting • County Law Enforcement • University Wisconsin Extension Well Program • Land Records Consortium • Highway Department Cooperation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Striping/Sealing • GIS Information/Resources • Quarterly Land Use Meetings 	
Town of Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and Rescue • Facilities • Town Association Meetings • Landfill Costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village and Town of Arena. There are also mutual aid agreements established with fire and rescue services. • Iowa County – share buildings, storage, facilities, and zoning services. • Town of Arena • Village of Arena
Town of Clyde	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and Rescue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village of Lone Rock
Town of Dodgeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection and Rescue Services • Boundary Agreement • Water and Sewer • Public Library • Recreation Facilities • Health and Social Services • Law Enforcement • Planning and Zoning • Agriculture/Soil Conservation • School System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Dodgeville and State (Fire Permits) • City of Dodgeville and State • City of Dodgeville • City of Dodgeville • City of Dodgeville • Iowa County • Iowa County • Iowa County • Iowa County and UW Extension • State of Wisconsin
Town of Eden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection and Rescue Services • Police Protection • School System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cobb-Eden Fire District (works with Highland, Montfort, and Dodgeville). • Iowa County • Dodgeville, Highland, and Iowa-Grant School Districts.
Town of Highland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection and Ambulance Services • Law Enforcement • School System • Recreation Programs/Services • Road Maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village of Highland • Iowa County • Village of Highland and Towns of Eden, Pulaski, Castle Rock, and Dodgeville • Village of Highland • Towns of Castle Rock and Eden
Town of Linden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection • Rescue Services: First Responders and EMT • Police Protection • School System • Road Maintenance and Supplies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities of Mineral Point, Dodgeville, Villages of Cobb, Linden • Cities of Mineral Point, Dodgeville, Villages of Cobb, Highland, Linden, Montfort. • Iowa County • 3 school districts: Dodgeville, Iowa-Grant, Mineral Point • Town of Mifflin and Iowa County

TABLE G.2 (cont): EXISTING AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdiction	Areas of Cooperation	Shared With?
Town of Mifflin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection • Rescue Services • Police Protection • School System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mineral Point, Cobb/Clifton, Livingston/Eden, Rewey • City of Mineral Point, Village of Montfort • Iowa County • Iowa-Grant and Mineral Point School District
Town of Mineral Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection and Ambulance Services • Police Protection • Road Maintenance and Equipment • Planning and Zoning • Animal Control Services • Shared Revenue • Formal Agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Mineral Point • Iowa county • Iowa County • Iowa County • Iowa County Humane Society • State of Wisconsin • City of Mineral Point
Town of Moscow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Protection • Road Maintenance • School System • Public Meeting Facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village of Blanchardville • Town of Waldwick • Towns of Adams, Argyle, Blanchard, Brigham, Fayette, Perry, Ridgeway, Waldwick, and York and Villages of Blanchardville and Hollandale • Hollandale Legion Building
Town of Pulaski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection and Rescue Services • Police Protection • School System • Road Maintenance • Planning and Zoning Services • Animal Control Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villages of Avoca, Highland, Muscoda • Iowa County • Riverdale (Village of Muscoda) and Highland (Village of Highland) School Districts • Iowa County Highway Department • Iowa County • Iowa County Humane Society
Town of Ridgeway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection Services • Ambulance Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village of Ridgeway • City of Dodgeville, Village of Barneveld
Town of Waldwick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and Rescue Services • First Responders • School System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mineral Point, Villages of Blanchardville and Hollandale • Village of Hollandale, Town of Moscow • Mineral Point and Pecatonica School Districts
Town of Wyoming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection and Ambulance Services • Planning and Zoning Services • Government services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Spring Green, Troy, and Village of Spring Green for northern 2/3 of Town. City of Dodgeville for southern 1/3 of Town. • Iowa county • Iowa County
Village of Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and Rescue • Police protection • Sewer Service • School System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Arena • DNR and Dane and Sauk Counties • Dane-Iowa Wastewater Commission • River Valley School District
Village of Avoca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and Rescue • School System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Pulaski • Riverdale Schools System
Village of Blanchardville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection • Ambulance Service • Law Enforcement • Planning and Zoning • School Systems • Public Library • Recreation Programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towns of Blanchard, Fayette, Moscow, Perry, and York • Towns of Blanchard, Fayette, Moscow, Perry, Waldwick, York, and Village of Hollandale • Iowa County, Lafayette County • Iowa County • Pecatonica and Argyle School Districts • Adjoining Towns and Village of Hollandale • Adjoining Towns and Village of Hollandale

TABLE G.2 (cont): EXISTING AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdiction	Areas of Cooperation	Shared With?
Village of Highland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire • Rescue • Lake Commission • Planning and Zoning • Recreation Facilities • Taxes • Municipal Clerk-Treasurer • Public Works Equipment • Road Maintenance • Ride Sharing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towns of Castle Rock and Pulaski • Towns of Pulaski, Eden, Castle Rock, V. of Cobb • Village of Cobb • Iowa County • Town of Highland and Highland School District • Other taxing jurisdictions • Village of Cobb • Villages of Cobb and Avoca • Town of Highland, Iowa County • Villages of Cobb, Avoca, and Rewey
Village of Hollandale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection and Ambulance Services • Law Enforcement • Meeting Facilities • Comprehensive Planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared when requested • Iowa County • Pecos Area School • Iowa County
Village of Linden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snow Plowing • Fire Protection and Rescue Services • Police Protection • Sewer Maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Linden • Mineral Point, Village of Cobb, Town of Linden, Iowa County • Iowa County • City of Mineral Point, Dodgeville, V. of Montfort
Village of Ridgeway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and Rescue • Police Protection • Schools • Municipal Court • Farm Bureau • Soil Conservation Service • Department of Natural Resources • Roadways • Bike Trail and Recreational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Ridgeway, Village of Barneveld • Iowa County • Dodgeville School District

Even the best of neighbors have occasional conflicts and governmental units are no exception. Table G.3 lists intergovernmental conflicts Iowa County jurisdictions deal with.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFLICTS

TABLE G.3: IOWA COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFLICTS

Jurisdiction	Conflict Issues	With?
City of Dodgeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility of annexation issues with the Town of Dodgeville • Zoning issues with Iowa County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Dodgeville • Iowa County
City of Mineral Point	None identified	
Iowa County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proprietorship of Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Air Photos • State and Federal mandates • Levels of Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Number of offices 	
Town of Arena	The Town of Arena is concerned with the issue of shared protection costs of Fire and EMT services, as well as the share of cost for road surfacing on highways shared with the Village of Arena.	Village of Arena
Town of Clyde	None identified.	

TABLE G.3 (cont.): IOWA COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFLICTS

Jurisdiction	Conflict Issues	With?
Town of Dodgeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of coordinated housing and economic development planning • Tourism promotion and room tax issues • Sewage and Water provision issues • Inconsistent, redundant, outdated, and conflicting rules • Zoning issues • Road traffic issues • Town residents using city funded facilities such as parks, recreation facilities, and the library • Lacks support and understanding of Town policies • Land use planning issues with Iowa County and the State of Wisconsin • Road culvert maintenance issues with WI DNR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Dodgeville and Iowa County • City of Dodgeville • City of Dodgeville • Iowa County • Adjoining municipalities • City of Dodgeville • City of Dodgeville • Iowa County • Iowa County and State of Wisconsin • WI DNR
Town of Eden	None identified	
Town of Highland	No conflicts are identified but if any arose, traditionally they work together for common goals.	Town, Village of Highland, and the School District.
Town of Linden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoning disputes • Possible attempts by the Village of Linden to annex parts of the Town. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iowa County • Village of Linden
Town of Mifflin	No current conflicts exist although there is potential for future planning issues. Mifflin sees the need to partner with the County, identifying possible conflicts between local comprehensive plan and the master county plan. Prior to implementing either plan, responsibilities should be delineated and steps should be outlined to deal with future conflicts in an equitable manner.	
Town of Mineral Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential annexation and commercial development issues • Zoning issues • Air and water quality issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Mineral Point • Iowa County • All units of government
Town of Moscow	None identified	
Town of Pulaski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and rescue cost conflicts. • Flooding of Morey Creek • Annexation Disputes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighboring jurisdictions • Village of Avoca • Villages of Avoca and Muscoda
Town of Ridgeway	None identified	
Town of Waldwick	None identified	
Town of Wyoming	None identified	
Village of Arena	None identified	
Village of Avoca	The Village identifies one existing conflict of floodwater drainage.	Town of Pulaski
Village of Blanchardville	The Village does not identify any existing conflicts but does think there could be potential conflicts in the future such as poorly handled annexations. The Village has zoning ordinances that give them extraterritorial rights. These rights have not been exercised but could lead to conflict if they were. Also, rural subdivisions have been approved by the Town of Blanchard that do not meet Village subdivision requirements resulting in problems if they asked to annex in the future.	
Village of Highland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annexation • Sharing a salt shed • Issues about insurance coverage with sharing large pieces of equipment 	Town of Highland
Village of Hollandale	The Village identifies extraterritorial issues as a potential conflict.	Town of Moscow
Village of Linden	None identified	
Village of Ridgeway	The Village Plan Commission identified an "ongoing animosity" with other local units of government but did not elaborate, other than to say that the conflicts were general in nature.	

Table G.4 lists other intergovernmental concerns Iowa County jurisdictions are dealing with.

OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONCERNS

TABLE G.4: OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONCERNS FOR IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdiction	Other Concerns
City of Dodgeville	The City is concerned with the sharing of land records information and planning issues with its neighboring jurisdictions.
City of Mineral Point	Extraterritorial Zoning
Town of Arena*	Arena has jurisdictional issues with the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board.
Town of Clyde	None identified.
Town of Dodgeville*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personality conflicts, turf wars, egos, and personal agendas impact working relationships between the Town of Dodgeville and neighboring municipalities • Lack of continuity of governance in regard to available time and high turnover of elected officials • Tax rate differences • Decisions involving stakeholders and taxpayers should be done in conjunction with local government cooperation. • Annexation • Stormwater • Economic development • Intergovernmental cooperation involvement between the WI DNR (Governor Dodge State Park) and the Town needs improvement.
Town of Eden*	None identified
Town of Highland	With increasing population, the Town will have to work more with surrounding jurisdictions on a cooperative basis.
Town of Linden*	Because of budget constraints, local governments might be <u>forced</u> to share services, which could mean cuts.
Town of Mifflin	None identified
Town of Mineral Point	None identified
Town of Moscow	Since the Town of Moscow is in the far southwest corner of Iowa County, it is difficult for the Town to work with its neighbors since Moscow borders three different counties (Lafayette, Green, and Dane) and five townships (Blanchard, Brigham, Perry, Waldwick, and York). One of the neighboring towns is not involved in the Smart Growth process and some neighboring jurisdictions are actively opposed to it. This is a point of concern for the Town as it can contribute to strained intergovernmental working relationships or cause open disagreements between neighbors.
Town of Pulaski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disputes between Iowa County and most of its townships over planning development and zoning matters are legendary. Pulaski is no exception to this general rule. However, the Town remains hopeful that cooperation and understanding will be enhanced through the development of a Smart Growth comprehensive plan. • Agreements between the Town of Pulaski and the Iowa County Humane Society over animal control issues are ill defined and not mutually beneficial. • Other concerns in Pulaski include aggressive land acquisition in the Town by the WI DNR and the disruption of landowners rights related to development by the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board (some believe that adequate compensation should be paid to landowners for lost rights). Another issue relates to the Highland Fire District. It does not allow Pulaski representation on its Board which can levy taxes on Pulaski residents.
Town of Ridgeway	One intergovernmental concern identified by the Town pertains to the issue of cooperation with the Village of Ridgeway on the location of an industrial park. However, the Plan Commission noted that it is their practice to work as much as possible with all agencies and municipalities to best serve the citizens of Ridgeway.
Town of Waldwick	None identified
Town of Wyoming	A concern identified by the Town Plan Commission relates to a statutory provision that requires Wyoming officials serve as officers to the Spring Green Golf Club Sanitary District No 2 and the Valley Sanitary District because there are not enough residents in these two districts to fill the positions.
Village of Arena	The Village wishes to form a Fire District.
Village of Avoca	None identified
Village of Blanchardville	The Village is in both Lafayette and Iowa Counties; Green County is less than a mile from the Village limits and some of the Village's fire and school districts are in Dane County (est. 4 miles). Finding ways to communicate and not being the "forgotten corner of four counties" is a challenge although the Village likes to take the attitude they are "in the heart of the four county area". The Village's concern is how to interact with the other jurisdictions in other counties as part of the preparation of their Comprehensive Plan.
Village of Highland	None identified
Village of Hollandale	None identified
Village of Linden	None identified
Village of Ridgeway	None identified

There are many opportunities for increased intergovernmental cooperation between Iowa County jurisdictions. Table G.5 lists possible future cooperation efforts between Iowa County governmental units.

POSSIBLE FUTURE COOPERATION EFFORTS

TABLE G.5: POSSIBLE FUTURE COOPERATION EFFORTS FOR IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdiction	Possible Cooperating Services	With?
City of Dodgeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water and Sewer Utilities Police Services Mapping and Planning Services Road Maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town of Dodgeville. Town of Dodgeville and Iowa County. Town of Dodgeville and Iowa County. The City may be able to share road maintenance responsibilities with the Town of Dodgeville, Iowa County, and the State of Wisconsin.
City of Mineral Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Garage Library Services Maintenance Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town of Mineral Point and/or Iowa County Local School District Town of Mineral Point and Iowa County
Town of Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Protection 	Village of Arena
Town of Clyde	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing – affordable housing developments 	Neighboring jurisdictions.
Town of Dodgeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law Enforcement Roads and Road Maintenance Community Buildings Economic Development Equipment Solid Waste Disposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iowa County Adjoining Towns and Villages Iowa County and City of Dodgeville Iowa County and City of Dodgeville City of Dodgeville City of Dodgeville
Town of Eden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Maintenance Equipment 	Village of Cobb
Town of Highland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Maintenance Equipment Fire Protection and Ambulance Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iowa County Highway Commission Village of Highland
Town of Linden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garbage and Recycling Office Equipment and Supplies Public Transportation Senior Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village of Linden Village of Linden and other neighboring Towns Iowa County Village of Linden
Town of Mifflin	Mifflin is already cooperating with other jurisdictions for services and facilities. The Plan Commission did not identify any possible future cooperation efforts it might pursue.	
Town of Mineral Point	Mineral Point is already cooperating with other jurisdictions for services and facilities. The Plan Commission did not identify any future cooperation efforts it might pursue.	
Town of Moscow	As the list above indicates, Moscow currently cooperates with other jurisdictions for services and facilities. The Town Plan Commission did not identify any possible future cooperation efforts it might pursue.	
Town of Pulaski	It appears that the opportunities for additional sharing are limited. Long term, one possibility the Town might consider is contracting for its road maintenance. Such an arrangement would reduce or eliminate the need to purchase equipment, as well as staffing issues, the latter of which are made difficult by the sporadic, seasonal nature of much of the work.	
Town of Ridgeway	Road Maintenance	Neighboring jurisdictions
Town of Waldwick	Building Inspector	Town of Moscow
Town of Wyoming	Cooperation opportunities for the future could include the possibility of sharing the cost, ownership, and responsibility of roadwork equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iowa County Surrounding Towns
Village of Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Programs/Services Public Library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Valley School District Town of Arena
Village of Avoca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building Inspector Equipment Purchases GIS Mapping Parks and Recreation Employees ATV Trails, Bike Trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surrounding communities Village of Muscoda, Town of Pulaski Iowa County Surrounding communities Towns of Pulaski and Clyde

TABLE G.5 (cont.): POSSIBLE FUTURE COOPERATION EFFORTS FOR IOWA COUNTY JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdiction	Possible Cooperating Services	With?
Village of Blanchardville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Protection Building Inspector Assessment Services Meeting Facilities Polling Place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village of Argyle, other interested municipalities Iowa County Iowa County Pecatonica SD, T. of Blanchard, other Towns Town of Blanchard
Village of Highland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIS Mapping Webpage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iowa County Highland School
Village of Hollandale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building Inspectors Assessor Village Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighboring jurisdictions Neighboring jurisdictions Neighboring jurisdictions
Village of Linden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipal Clerk Building Inspector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town of Linden Neighboring jurisdictions
Village of Ridgeway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policing Fire Protection Park Maintenance 	

It is vital that communication flows freely between governmental units, so jurisdictions are not taken by surprise by the actions of their neighbors. Table G.6 lists the ways that Iowa County jurisdictions maintain and encourage communication with their neighboring jurisdictions.

COMMUNICATION WITH NEIGHBORS

TABLE G.6: IOWA COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMUNICATION

Jurisdiction	Communication Efforts	With?
City of Dodgeville	Communicates regularly by sharing Plan Commission Agendas, including them in neighboring jurisdiction newsletters.	Neighboring jurisdictions
City of Mineral Point	Local newspapers, public notices, emergency communications, mailings, police dispatches.	Neighboring jurisdictions
Town of Arena	The Town of Arena communicates regularly through Smart Growth planning, Township meetings and communication with Fire Board members.	Neighboring jurisdictions
Town of Clyde	No regular communication.	
Town of Dodgeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sending their quarterly newsletters. Phone conversations, letters, informal conversations, established procedural paperwork Reading other jurisdictions notices in the newspaper Occasionally inviting other municipalities to Town of Dodgeville meetings and attending meetings at neighboring municipalities when the occasion presents information of mutual interest and benefit. Email and website Having staff work directly with neighboring jurisdiction staff to identify mutual areas of interest, need, assistance or necessary agreements, or procedures that can be shared or improved upon. Belonging to and participating in jurisdictional associations such as the Wisconsin Towns Association with which neighboring jurisdictions also have membership. 	Every municipality in Iowa County
Town of Eden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly informs of upcoming meetings, hearings, etc., with phone calls. Some jurisdictional entities are not contacted regularly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Villages of Cobb and Highland Fire District, School District, and Iowa County
Town of Highland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently holds joint meetings for Fire and Ambulance services, Smart Growth planning, and other business as needed. In the past have used the Town of Highland polling place for school referendums. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighboring jurisdictions Towns of Eden, Castle Rock, Wingville, Pulaski
Town of Linden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not have regular communication, although it does maintain informal contacts. Town is also part of the Wisconsin Association of Towns. 	Neighboring jurisdictions

TABLE G.6 (cont.): IOWA COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMUNICATION

Jurisdiction	Communication Efforts	With?
Town of Mifflin	Communicates with neighboring jurisdictions through informal verbal communication. Also ongoing communication with County government both formally and informally in the area of emergency government and zoning. The township communicates with both State and County government, receiving information in several areas that is passed to Town residents by posting on bulletin boards at the Town hall and the recycling center.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighboring jurisdictions • State and County government.
Town of Mineral Point	Communicates on a regular basis by telephone and the newspapers.	Neighboring jurisdictions
Town of Moscow	The Town formally communicates through postings of meetings in public places and informally through discussions. They attend Town Association meetings and cluster group meetings as well, although not all jurisdictions are informed on a regular basis. The Town and School Districts have regular meetings.	
Town of Pulaski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town currently publishes agendas of all meetings of the Town Board and Plan Commission in the local newspaper. These agendas are also posted at two business locations in the Village of Avoca and the Town Hall. • Occasionally, Pulaski will communicate with its constituents through direct mailings. These mailings could be shared with officials of neighboring jurisdictions, if the sharing were reciprocated. 	
Town of Ridgeway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town communicates by having two Town Board members on the Fire Board for the Fire Department. • The Town Board meets with the Village Board when there is business that pertains to both. All Town meetings are posted in the Village of Ridgeway and Town Board members attend County meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighboring jurisdictions • Village of Ridgeway
Town of Waldwick	The Town of Waldwick communicates formally with its neighboring jurisdictions by having two members on the Fire Board who attend regular meetings. Most communication with neighboring jurisdictions is informal.	
Town of Wyoming	The Town communicates regularly by correspondence, phone contact, personal visits, exchanging newsletters, sitting on common boards of governmental units, and attending quarterly meetings of the Iowa County Unit of the Wisconsin Towns Association.	Neighboring jurisdictions
Village of Arena	The Village of Arena usually communicates with its neighbors on an as needed basis, accomplished by postings and meetings. No specific notice is given any neighboring municipalities unless necessary. Otherwise, the requisite public notices suffice.	Neighboring jurisdictions
Village of Avoca	The Village does not communicate with its neighbors on a regular basis.	
Village of Blanchardville	The Village of Blanchardville has no regular communication with its neighboring municipalities, although the local newspaper, The Pecatonica Valley Leader, covers local activities for the Villages of Blanchardville, Hollandale, and Argyle and the surrounding townships. The Village of Blanchardville keeps track of its neighbors through published reports and notices. However, there have been no regular lines of communication.	
Village of Highland	The Village has ongoing mentoring between clerks and Department of Public Works staff via email or phone, on an as needed basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Highland, Avoca, and Village of Cobb
Village of Hollandale	The Village communicates regularly through the local paper and by posting meeting notices at the Village post office, bank, and the Hollandale grocery store.	Neighboring jurisdictions
Village of Linden	The Village does not have regular communication with its neighboring municipalities.	
Village of Ridgeway	The Village has regular communication via a Fire Board.	Neighboring jurisdictions

Formal, written agreements between intergovernmental units are useful because they help avoid disputes or misunderstandings that can result from verbal agreements. A written agreement can be reviewed and edited, listing the obligations, advantages, and responsibilities of each of the involved parties, whether it be an agreement of fire and rescue services or shared road maintenance. Table G.7 lists the formal agreements existing between Iowa County jurisdictions and with whom the agreements are made.

FORMAL AGREEMENTS WITH NEIGHBORING JURISDICTIONS

TABLE G.7: IOWA COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL JURISDICTION FORMAL AGREEMENTS

Jurisdiction	Agreement Type	With?
City of Dodgeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanitary District Boundary Agreement Shared Road Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town of Dodgeville Town of Dodgeville Town of Dodgeville
City of Mineral Point	Extraterritorial Zoning	Town of Mineral Point
Iowa County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Planning Agreements Tri County Airport Agreement GIS Website Southwest Wisconsin Library System Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area 	
Town of Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facility Agreement Fire and Rescue service agreement Mutual Aid agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iowa County Village of Arena Neighboring jurisdictions
Town of Clyde	No formal agreements with neighbors.	•
Town of Dodgeville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work projects on roads/bridges Shared road agreement Boundary agreement, signed in 1996 which stipulates the Town will invest in and develop Greater Heights subdivision, and have enough years to recover the investment by generating tax revenues. At the end of the agreement time span, the City will have an option for annexation. Fire and Ambulance agreement Diggers Hotline Marking, signed in March 2003 which says the City will mark water and sewage lines in the Greater Heights subdivision when the Town requests, with the Town retaining liability. Sanitary Districts. The Town uses City water and sewage for one subdivision and hotels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iowa County Town of Mineral Point City of Dodgeville
Town of Eden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long term (20+ yrs) Fire and Ambulance agreement renewed annually Long term (20+ yrs) Fire and Ambulance agreement renewed annually Long term (20+ yrs) Fire and Ambulance agreement renewed annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highland Village of Montfort Dodgeville
Town of Highland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A road maintenance agreement signed in March 2000 for maintenance of Tower Road and Farmers Ridge Road. Fire and Ambulance agreement. 	Village of Highland
Town of Linden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road maintenance Fire protection Rescue services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town of Mifflin Mineral Point, Dodgeville, Village of Cobb Mineral Point
Town of Mifflin	Has Fire and Rescue protection agreements. These are written agreements and are renewed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral Point, Village of Cobb, Linden, Village of Rewey Fire Departments.
Town of Mineral Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire and Rescue service agreement Zoning agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Mineral Point Iowa County
Town of Moscow	The Town has formal agreements with its Fire Department and communicates via a fire board	Fire Department
Town of Pulaski	Fire Departments	
Town of Ridgeway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Department operation Planning and Zoning services Agreement to provide Ambulance services to 60% of the Town Agreement to provide Ambulance services to 40% of the Town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village of Ridgeway Iowa County Barneveld Rescue City of Dodgeville
Town of Waldwick	Fire protection	

TABLE G.7 (cont.): IOWA COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL JURISDICTION FORMAL AGREEMENTS

Jurisdiction	Agreement Type	With?
Town of Wyoming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Growth Planning Process Agreement and Contract signed in 2002 • Joint Fire District Agreement that was signed in 1946 • Fire and Ambulance services agreement, signed in 1971 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iowa County • Village and Town of Spring Green • City of Dodgeville
Village of Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Arena • Dane-Iowa Wastewater Commission • Mutual Aid Fire Protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Arena • Dane-Iowa Wastewater Commission • Iowa County
Village of Avoca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoca & Rural Fire & EMS District contract • Avoca & Rural Fire & EMS District building lease for the Fire Station building • Mutual Aid agreement for Avoca & Rural Fire & EMS District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Pulaski • Town of Pulaski • Iowa County
Village of Blanchardville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection agreements that are renewed yearly. • Towns of Blanchard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towns of Blanchard, Fayette, Moscow, Perry, York • Towns of Blanchard, Fayette, Moscow, Perry, Waldwick, York and the Village of Hollandale
Village of Highland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formed the Highland Joint Fire District for fire and ambulance protection • Fire Protection agreements • Ambulance service agreements • Road maintenance agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Highland • Towns of Castle Rock and Pulaski • Towns of Pulaski, Eden, and Castle Rock, Village of Cobb • Town of Highland
Village of Hollandale	Ambulance service agreement which is renewed yearly	Village of Blanchardville
Village of Linden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreements for using community/municipal buildings • Agreements for using community/municipal buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iowa-Grant Cub and Boy Scouts • SWCAP Head Start
Village of Ridgeway	Fire Protection	Town of Ridgeway

ADVANTAGES OF LOCAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Intergovernmental cooperation has many advantages associated with it including the following:

Efficiency and reduction of costs: Cooperating on the provision of services can potentially mean lower costs per unit or person. Although these are by no means the only reasons, efficiency and reduced costs are the most common reasons governments seek to cooperate.

Limited government restructuring: Cooperating with neighboring governments often avoids the time-consuming, costly, and politically sensitive issues of government restructuring. For example, if a city and township can cooperate, the township may avoid annexation of its land and the city may avoid incorporation efforts on the part of the township, which may hinder the city's development. Cooperation also helps avoid the creation of special districts that take power and resources away from existing governments.

Coordination and planning: Through cooperation, governments can develop policies for the area and work on common problems. Such coordination helps communities minimize conflicts when levels of services and enforcement are different among neighboring communities. For example, shared water, sewage, and waste management policies can help avoid the situation in which one area's environment is contaminated by a neighboring jurisdiction with lax standards or limited services. Cooperation can also lead to joint planning for future services and the resources needed to provide them.

Expanded services: Cooperation may provide a local unit of government with services it would otherwise be without. Cooperation can make those services financially and logistically possible.



DISADVANTAGES OF LOCAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Intergovernmental cooperation also has drawbacks, which may include the following:

Reaching and maintaining an agreement: In general, reaching a consensus in cases in which politics and community sentiments differ can be difficult. For example, all parties may agree that police protection is necessary. However, they may disagree widely on how much protection is needed. An agreement may fall apart if one jurisdiction wants infrequent patrolling and the other wants an active and visible police force.

Unequal partners: If one party to an agreement is more powerful, it may influence the agreement's conditions. With service agreements, the more powerful party, or the party providing the service, may have little to lose if the agreement breaks down, it may already service itself at a reasonable rate. The weaker participants may not have other options and are open to possible exploitation.

Local self-preservation and control: Some jurisdictions may feel their identity and independence will be threatened by intergovernmental cooperation. The pride of residents and officials may be bruised if, after decades of providing their own police or fire protection, they must contract with a neighboring jurisdiction (and possible old rival) for the service. In addition, and possibly more importantly, a jurisdiction may lose some control over what takes place within their boundaries. And although government officials may lose control, they are still held responsible for the delivery of services to their electorates.

STEPS TO BEGINNING SUCCESSFUL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION EFFORTS

As expressed earlier in this section, intergovernmental cooperation should be thoroughly reviewed. Below are some ideas and concerns that should be considered.

- Identify other local governments that may share a common problem or may stand to benefit from cooperation.
- Identify whether the county is cooperating with other jurisdictions on a similar service. What type of arrangement do they have? Are the participating jurisdictions satisfied with the quality and quantity of the service?
- Although cooperation on several services may be desired, analyze each one separately. Initially, it may seem logical to lump services. However, it is best to first understand from a cost and non-cost perspective what cooperation in each service area entails.
- Look at the potential cost savings of each option. This should be done on a per resident or per unit-of-service-provided basis. For example, will the cost of fire protection per person decrease if the jurisdictions cooperate? Or, can the jurisdiction lower per resident costs of providing snow removal if it plows other jurisdictions' streets?
- Consider the costs associated with each form of cooperation. What type of administrative or insurance costs might be necessary with each option?
- How would residents respond to the change in the level of services they receive? And how would taxpayers respond to additional government expenses? Would they reject it?
- Are the residents willing to give up some control over a particular service? This may take considerable polling to determine and will likely vary depending on the type of service in question. For example, it may be all right to share snow removal and street repair equipment, but residents might not be willing to give up their own police department and the security they feel it provides.
- Keep the public and local officials informed throughout the entire process. Present the options and invite public comment. If residents and officials feel they have played a role in the effort, or at least been given the opportunity to provide their input, they will be more likely to support the initiative. Plus, some creative ideas may be generated.

- Patience is important. The more governments involved in the negotiations, the longer it will take to develop an agreement and reach a consensus. In addition, negotiators may have to go back to their city councils, town, or county boards several times for directions or approval.

ADDITIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION IDEAS

The Intergovernmental Cooperation Element Guide published by the Wisconsin Department of Administration provides several ideas for cooperation including the following listed below. These are only ideas to consider. *(Note: the following ideas were taken directly from the Intergovernmental Cooperation Guide.)*

Voluntary Assistance: Your community, or another, could voluntarily agree to provide a service to your neighbors because doing so makes economic sense and improves service levels.

Trading Services: Your community and another could agree to exchange services. You could exchange the use of different pieces of equipment, equipment for labor, or labor for labor.

Renting Equipment: Your community could rent equipment to, or from, neighboring communities and other governmental units. Renting equipment can make sense for both communities – the community renting gets the use of equipment without having to buy it, and the community renting out the equipment earns income from the equipment rather than having it sit idle.

Contracting: Your community could contract with another community or jurisdiction to provide a service. For example, you could contract with an adjacent town or village to provide police and fire protection, or you could contract with the county for a service in addition to that already routinely provided by the county sheriff's department.

Routine County Services: Some services are already paid for through taxes and fees. Examples are police protection services from the county sheriff's department, county zoning, county public health services, and county parks. Your Intergovernmental Cooperation Element could identify areas where improvements are needed and could recommend ways to cooperatively address them.

Sharing Municipal Staff: Your community could share staff with neighboring communities and other jurisdictions – both municipal employees and independently contracted professionals. You could share a building inspector, assessor, planner, engineer, zoning administrator, clerk, etc.

Consolidating Services: Your community could agree with one or more other communities or governmental units to provide a service together.

Joint Use of a Facility: Your community could use a public facility along with other jurisdictions. The facility could be jointly owned or one jurisdiction could rent space from another.

Special Purpose Districts: Special purpose districts are created to provide a particular service, unlike municipalities that provide many different types of services. Like municipalities, special purpose districts are separate and legally independent entities.

Joint Purchase and Ownership of Equipment: Your community could agree with other jurisdictions to jointly purchase and own equipment such as pothole patching machines, mowers, rollers, snowplows, street sweepers, etc.

Cooperative Purchasing: Cooperative purchasing, or procurement, is where jurisdictions purchase supplies and equipment together to gain more favorable prices.

TECHNIQUES AND PROGRAMS FOR MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY COOPERATION

As Iowa County continues to grow, it may be necessary to consider some type of boundary agreements. Municipal boundaries can be altered in a number of ways including the following:

- **Annexation**

Annexation is the process of transferring parcels of land from unincorporated areas to adjacent cities or villages. More detailed information on annexation can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Sections 66.0217-66.0223.

- **Detachment**

Detachment is the process by which territory is detached from one jurisdiction and transferred to another. Essentially detachment is the opposite of annexation. More detailed information on detachment can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Sections 66.0227 and 62.075.

- **Incorporation**

Incorporation is the process of creating a new village or city from unincorporated territory. More detailed information on incorporation can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Sections 66.0201-66.0215.

- **Consolidation**

Consolidation is the process by which a town, village, or city joins together with another town, village, or city to form one jurisdiction. More detailed information on incorporation can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute Section 66.0229.

- **Intergovernmental Agreements**

Intergovernmental Agreements provide communities with a different type of approach because it is proactive rather than reactive. There are two types of intergovernmental agreements that can be formed including cooperative boundary agreements and stipulations and orders. More detailed information on intergovernmental agreements can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute 66.0307 (Cooperative Boundary Agreements) and 66.0225 (Stipulations and Orders).

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS—MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY REVIEW (DHIR-MBR)

Municipal Boundary Review regulates the transition of unincorporated areas to city or village status through municipal annexation, incorporation, consolidation, or by joint city-village-town activities involving cooperative boundary plans and agreements. Such agreements may change territorial boundaries and may provide for the sharing of municipal services. Staff members are available upon request to meet with local officials and citizens to discuss annexation; incorporation, consolidation, and cooperative boundary plans.

MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY REVIEW

Office of Land Information Services
Municipal Boundary Review
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<http://www.doa.state.wi.us/dhir>