

Bayfield County Clerk

Lynn M. Divine, *County Clerk*

Kim Mattson, *Accountant*
Gail M. Reha, *Bookkeeper*

Jeran Delaine, *Deputy Clerk*
Paige Terry, *Clerk III*



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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE

Steve Sandstrom-*Chair*, Mary Dougherty, Charly Ray, Jim Crandall-*Vice Chair*,
Ruth Hulstrom, Ben Dufford, Jason Bodine, Douglas Smith,
Cole Rabska, Bob Anderson, Kellie Pederson, Mark Abeles-Allison,
Keith Koenning, Barb Thorpe, Nicole Boyd

ADVISORY MEMBERS:

Jason Laumann, Northwest Regional Planning Commission
Emily Nelson, Northwest Regional Planning Commission
Megan Mader, Northwest Regional Planning Commission
Lynn Divine, Paige Terry, Bayfield County Clerk's Office

RE: April 26th, 2023, 10:00 am, Bayfield County Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting

Dear Committee Members:

Please be advised that the monthly meeting of the Bayfield County Comprehensive Plan Committee will be held on **April 26, 2023 at 10:00am.** This meeting will be held in-person in the Bayfield County **Emergency Operations Center in the Annex Building** at 117 E 6th St Washburn, WI. Supervisors and the public will be able to participate in the meeting in-person or remotely via voice either by using the internet link or phone number below.

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Please contact Bayfield County at 715-373-6181 or 715-373-6100. If you have access questions prior to the meeting. During the meeting if you have connection issues, please email mark.abeles-allison@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov.

Any person wishing to attend who, because of a disability, requires special accommodations, should contact the County Clerk's office at 715-373-6100, at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting time, so appropriate arrangements can be made.

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Public Comment (3 minutes per person, 15 minutes total)

4. Discussion and Possible Action, Minutes March 15, 2023
5. Existing Land Use Map Amendments/Corrections Update
[Bayfield County Existing Land Use Review \(arcgis.com\)](#)
6. Future Land Use Mapping Exercise Updates and Discussion Regarding the Need for Town Follow Ups
7. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Workgroup Action Plan Review for Four Workgroups:
 - a) **Agricultural, Natural, & Cultural Resources**
 - b) **Intergovernmental Cooperation**
 - c) **Transportation**
 - d) **Utilities & Community Facilities**
8. Resources: Bayfield County Web Site, type 2022 Comprehensive Planning into Search Field
 - Current Bayfield County Comp Plan link:
<https://www.bayfieldcounty.wi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/129/Bayfield-County-Comp-Plan-Full-PDF>
 - County Wide Plans:
<https://www.bayfieldcounty.wi.gov/209/Bayfield-County-Comprehensive-Plan>
 - Existing Land Use Review:
[Bayfield County Existing Land Use Review | Northwest Regional Planning Commission, WI \(nwrpc.com\)](#)
 - **Draft Plan Elements: At NWRPC Site: Bayfield County Comprehensive Plan Update | Northwest Regional Planning Commission, WI (nwrpc.com)**
 - **Preferred Future Land Use Exercise form (PDF)**
 - **Preferred Future Land Use Exercise form (XCEL)**
9. Next Meeting Dates:
 - a) May 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
 - b) June 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
 - c) July 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. FINAL MEETING

10. Adjournment

Sincerely,

LYNN M. DIVINE
Bayfield County Clerk
LMD/pat

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Minutes of the:
Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting
March 15, 2023 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Held in the Bayfield County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Annex Building,
Washburn, WI
& Remotely

The meeting of the Comprehensive Planning Committee was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by *Committee Chairman*, Steve Sandstrom.

Members Present: Steve Sandstrom, Charly Ray, Jim Crandall, Bob Anderson, Kellie Pederson, Barb Thorpe (virtually), Keith Koenning, Nicole Boyd (virtually), Travis Tulowitzky (on behalf of Ben Dufford), Cole Rabska, Jason Laumann (virtually), Emily Nelson, Megan Mader, and Paige Terry

Members Excused: Lynn Divine, Douglas Smith, Jason Bodine, Mary Dougherty, Ben Dufford, Ruth Hulstrom, and Mark Abeles-Allison

Others Present: Bruce Moore- Member of the Chequamegon Chapter of the Citizens' Climate Lobby, Fred Strand- County Board Vice-Chair, Jeff Silbert- County Board Supervisor, Kim Bro- Town of Washburn Planning Commission, Kelly Westlund-UW Extension Bayfield County Housing Educator

2. **Introductions:** Introductions of the committee members were made.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Discussion and Possible Action, Minutes January 18, 2022:**

Motion by Crandall, seconded by Rabska to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2023, Comprehensive Planning Committee meeting with the recommended change. Motion carried.

5. **Existing Land Use Map Amendments/Corrections Update:** Nelson informed the committee that Northwest Regional Planning Commission received corrections from the Town of Bayfield and the Town of Clover. The link to submit mapping changes will be closing at the end of March and towns will no longer be able to submit changes. Koenning stated that the existing land use map exercise may be overwhelming to towns that are not familiar with completing the exercise. Nelson suggested that another notification be sent to town clerks and town planning commissions. The committee agreed. Terry volunteered to ask Hulstrom to send out another notification. Kim Bro, Town of Washburn Plan Commission, reported that the Town of Washburn's Plan Commission has reviewed the map, came up with a list of changes, and have brought it forward to the Town Board the night before. Nelson asked if the deadline for the existing land use exercise should be pushed back to April. Laumann stated that there is no reason the deadline for both maps can't coincide and suggested both deadlines be open until May. The committee agreed to extend the existing land use mapping exercise to May. Bro informed the committee that the Town of Washburn Town Board had concerns regarding Abeles-Allison's presentation at the Town's Association meeting at stated that the examples of density presented matched what currently exists in the plan and did not reflect what is in the land use chapter of the plan. Bro brought up concerns regarding the town board process and Laumann explained that the

Town Board comprehensive plan process is a separate process from the County's comprehensive planning process.

6. **Future Land Use Map Mailings and Updates, Discussion Regarding Need for Town Follow Ups:** Nelson informed the committee that each of the towns received a memo regarding the exercise, an existing land use map, a future land use map, and a future land use mapping exercise FAQ.
7. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Workgroup Action Plan Review for Four Workgroups:** Sandstrom informed the committee that the Intergovernmental Cooperation group was not ready to present at the meeting. Nelson stated that Economic Development would be ready to present if there was enough time.
 - a) **Land Use:** Ray reviewed the changes that have made to the Land Use section of the plan which include revision of the mission statement, emphasis on the maintenance of the rural landscape of the county and included additional goals and action items added to the plan. Laumann asked that action 1 of objective 2 for goal 1 in the section be listed more as a policy than an action item. Ray explained why the workgroup listed the item as an action item. Laumann stated an action item gives more evaluative criteria to evaluate a potential development proposal. Ray suggested rewording the action item, so it followed more of the action item criteria. Discussion took place regarding the difference between action items listed under the objectives and policies. The committee reviewed the SMART criteria that the workgroups followed to make their action items measurable with the attendees. Bayfield County Board Vice-Chair, Fred Strand, mentioned that the towns were very involved with the comprehensive planning process back in 2008-2010 and explained that each of the towns' plans were included as brochure plans in the county's comprehensive plan. Laumann stated that there is no reason that the towns cannot be included and explained he is unaware of any statements that were previously made in the old comprehensive plan. Strand stated that the Town of Oulu will be mentioning in their comprehensive plan that it is included in the county's plan and asked that the county do the same.
 - b) **Housing:** Pederson reviewed changes made to the housing section draft which included updating the objectives, actions, and responsible parties. Bayfield County Conservation Technician, Travis Tulowitzky, asked Pederson if there was an objective or action item within the section pertaining to the encouragement of multi-unit developments within existing infrastructure. Pederson reviewed objective one and objective three with the committee and reviewed their relevance to the question. Discussion took place regarding the definition of density and how it impacts the county.
 - c) **Hazard Mitigation:** Anderson reviewed the revisions to the hazard mitigation section of the plan. Anderson explained that the formatting for the section has been changed. Sandstrom asked if Bayfield County as an EMS agency should be mentioned in the section. The committee agreed that it did not need to be mentioned. Pederson suggested that citizens or residents be mentioned in the section's vision statement. Laumann suggested adding an element regarding evaluating, reviewing, or considering natural and technological hazards as part of the development approval process.
 - d) **Economic Development:** Rabska reviewed the edits made to the economic development section. Rabska stated that some of the dates in the section may be changed to make the more achievable.
8. **Resources:** Nelson informed the committee that the existing land use review exercise is available on the NWRPC website.

Pederson asked what will come next after this exercise is completed. Nelson explained that additional revisions and refinements will be made to the presented sections based on comments made at the meeting. The remaining workgroups will present at the next meeting. Laumann informed the committee that it will have to ultimately approve each section for inclusion in the final Comprehensive Plan. Laumann stated that the missing information from the Future Land Use exercise will play a big part in finalizing the documents and finishing the plan.

9. Comprehensive Planning Calendar:

- a) **May 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**
- b) **June 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**
- c) **July 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**

10. Next Meeting:

- a) Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 10:00 AM (rescheduled to April 26, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the EOC)

11. Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Bayfield County Comprehensive Planning Committee, *Chairman* Sandstrom adjourned the meeting at **10:52 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

LYNN M. DIVINE
Bayfield County Clerk
LMD/pat

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Draft Revision

Goal 1: Improve communication and collaboration with neighboring towns, municipalities, area school districts, state and federal agencies, and the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to improve efficiency.

| | Target Timeline | Responsible Party |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| Objective 1: Determine need for agreements with state, federal and municipal agencies and the Red Cliff Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa to facilitate response to all hazard incidents. | | |
| Action 1: Compile a list of all current agreements with Agencies and survey other agencies to determine if additional agreements are necessary. | | |
| <i>Action 2: Analyze services that are currently being provided, identify activities and services that are beneficial to the County, identify those activities and services that are not currently being provided to the County but would be beneficial and recommend agreements that are not beneficial for the County.</i> | | |
| | | |
| Action 3: Develop a list with a description of the location, use and capacity of existing public utilities and community facilities, and recreational areas. | | |
| | | |
| Action 4: Notify appropriate state agencies of proposed land use plans. | | |
| Action 5: Notify WISDOT of proposed development projects adjacent to state trunk highways so they can plan accordingly for future improvements. | | |
| Action 6: Coordinate with WISDOT and WDNR to ensure transportation / facilities are safe and natural resources are protected. | | |
| Action 7: Ensure that the public rights-of-way and the pedestrian access route are accessible for users, including persons with disabilities. | | |
| Objective 2: Seek ways to share community facilities and services with neighboring communities and coordinate on multi-jurisdictional applications whenever possible. | | |
| Action 1: Inventory equipment and describe services provided by adjacent jurisdictions. | | |

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| Action 2: Develop formal agreements when sharing and developing programs, services and activities. | | |
| | Target Timeline | Responsible Party |
| Action 3: Outline and develop cost incentives for sharing and collaboration of facilities, programs, services and activities. | | |
| Action 4: Explore the potential for mutual services with neighboring towns including road development / maintenance, garbage collection, recycling, etc. | | |
| Action 5: Seek funds for housing rehabilitation in coordination with other with other jurisdictions. | | |
| Objective 3: <i>Identify existing or potential conflicts between local governmental units, including future land use trends, and describe processes to resolve such conflicts.</i> | | |
| Action 1: Establish a conflict resolution process with adjoining and overlapping jurisdictions. | | |
| Action 2: Work with surrounding towns and municipalities on land use and zoning issues. | | |
| Action 3: Adopt and incorporate County-wide land use classifications that have been developed as part of this comprehensive planning process. | | |
| Action 4: Continue the work of the Bayfield County Tribal Relations Committee with representation from Bayfield County Board and the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa that will meet regularly to communicate and address issues of concern to both jurisdictions. | | |

TRANSPORTATION

Draft Revision

Goal 1: The transportation system in Bayfield County shall facilitate the safe and efficient movement of its citizens within the County while preserving the identity of the community.

| | Target Timeline | Lead Agencies | Involved Agencies |
|--|-----------------|---|---|
| Objective 1: Coordinate with other jurisdictions, agencies, and committees in enhancing transportation services. | | | |
| Action 1: Establish open line of communication with WisDOT and local or regional transit authorities to maintain and enhance transportation facilities throughout the County. | 2024 | BC Administration Highway | WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe Medical Transit Human Services Veterans Office |
| Action 2: Continue to establish a local network of roads that are connected, coordinated, and affordable that will link residents to important community facilities and regional highways. | Ongoing | BC Administration Highway | WisDOT WTA |
| Action 3: Require private developers to design and construct roads under private ownership to County standards. | 2024 | BC Administration Planning & Zoning Highway | WTA |
| Action 4: Require the dedication or preservation of right-of-way consistent with County standards when property is subdivided and work with landowners/developers during the site planning process to implement safe and efficient roadway design including access points or | 2024 | Planning & Zoning Highway | WTA |

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| intersection with other roadways. | | | |
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Goal 2: Transportation improvements shall balance environmental factors with transportation needs and the desired land uses as identified in the future land use section of the Comprehensive Plan.

| | Target Timeline | Lead Agencies | Involved Agencies |
|--|-----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Objective 1: Plan alternate routes throughout the County to make better connections as necessary. | | | |
| Action 1: Engage local communities for input on all new highway projects. | Ongoing | BC Administration Highway | WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe |
| Objective 2: Plan, design, and construct transportation improvements that respect the natural environment and reflect the aesthetic character and values of the citizens of Bayfield County. | | | |
| Action 1: Incorporate design features that maximize the natural environment and aesthetic characters of Bayfield County. | Ongoing | Highway | WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe |
| Objective 3: Incorporate resiliency into future projects to mitigate impacts from changing weather conditions. | | | |
| Action 1: Include resilient features in future improvements to future projects that have experienced weather-related impacts. | Ongoing | Highway Emergency Management | WEM FEMA WisDOT |

Goal 3: The future transportation system should be flexible, multi-modal, incorporate technologies to support the transition to electric vehicles, and provide for the needs of citizens and businesses in Bayfield County.

| | Target Timeline | Lead Agencies | Involved Agencies |
|---|-----------------|---|--------------------------|
| Objective 1: Support efforts to expand walking, bicycling, ATV/UTV vehicles, transit, electric vehicle transition, and other modes of transportation. | | | |
| Action 1: Encourage bicycle trails throughout the County. | Ongoing | BC Administration Tourism Forestry Highway | WTA Towns Villages |

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|---|---------|---|--|
| Action 2: Develop a comprehensive trail plan and develop funding sources. | 2024 | BC Administration Tourism Forestry Highway | WTA |
| Objective 2: Support efforts to obtain easements and additional Right-Of-Way for future separated pathways. | | | |
| Action 1: Include funding and professional services to assist with acquiring additional Right-of-Way on future projects as available. | Ongoing | BC Administration Highway | FHWA WisDOT WTA |
| Objective 3: Develop and implement a county wide alternative fuel filling station plan. | | | |
| Action 1: Gather stakeholders and identify needs and options. | 2023 | BC Administration Forestry Sheriff Highway | WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe |
| Action 2: Develop Alternative Fueling Plan. | 2023 | BC Administration Forestry Sheriff Highway | FHWA WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe |
| Action 3: Review with stakeholders, finalize and implement plan. | 2024 | BC Administration Forestry Sheriff Highway | FHWA WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe |
| Objective 4: Encourage and work with commercial industry to establish alternative transportation and ride sharing options. | | | |
| Action 1: Identify and meet with stakeholders. | 2023 | BC Administration | FHWA WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe Medical Transit Human Services Veterans Office Highway |
| Action 2: Develop options and research funding opportunities. | 2023 | BC Administration | FHWA WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe Medical Transit |

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| | | | Human Services Veterans Office Highway |
| Action 3: Finalize options and apply for possible funding opportunities. | 2024 | BC Administration | FHWA WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe Medical Transit Human Services Veterans Office Highway |

Goal 4: Pursue alternative fuel sources for fleet vehicles as technology becomes available.

| | Target Timeline | Lead Agencies | Involved Agencies |
|--|-----------------|---|--|
| Objective 1: Invest in electric, CNG, or other alternative fuel type vehicles as technology becomes available. | | | |
| Action 1: Incorporate available technology in new projects. | Ongoing | BC Administration Forestry Sheriff Highway | FHWA WisDOT WTA Red Cliff Tribe |

UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Draft Revision

Goal 1: A clean, resilient energy supply that makes use of cost-effective renewable resources while protecting Bayfield County’s natural resources, that are consistent with and contribute to the County’s goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

| | Target Timeline | Responsible Party |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| <i>Objective 1: Align County policy with the State of Wisconsin's and Xcel Energy's policy of carbon-free electricity by 2050.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 2: Collaborate with area utilities and build working relationships to ensure power generating plants and transmission lines are incorporated into a smart grid.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 3: Collaborate with area utilities to demonstrate advanced clean energy projects, including microgrids, to build county and grid energy resilience.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 4: Encourage deployment of "rooftop" solar photovoltaics on county residential and business properties through solar-friendly permitting, education assistance, utility collaboration, and potential incentive assistance as it might become available.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 5: Encourage landowners and electric utilities to locate large solar photovoltaic arrays and energy storage systems near existing or future substations as this is the most cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally sound way to provide large-scale, locally sourced clean energy in this decade.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |

| | Target Timeline | Responsible Party |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Objective 6: Facilitate public input when permitting or approving utility infrastructure and oversee that utilities adhere to carbon reduction policies and intent of permits.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 7: Track and maintain carbon-free electricity status in all county-owned facilities even as electric usage may increase due to the electrification of transportation and building systems.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 8: Educate residents on the impact of reduced carbon policies and the long-term cost savings.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 9: Work with utilities to establish community resiliency centers.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 10: Develop a county-wide electric vehicle charging infrastructure plan and then implement that plan.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |

Goal 2: Sustain the health, well-being, recreation, and safety of residents and visitors and improve the quality, quantity and affordability of social services and education for all community members, including children, youth, teens, seniors, and people with disabilities.

| | Target Timeline | Responsible Party |
|---|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Objective 1: Health care, child, and senior care programs are available throughout the County.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 2: Identify and support efforts by home health, health care, and supportive care organizations to address the need for recruitment and retention of caregivers for seniors and children.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 3: Facilities and programs include accessible features to allow participation by all persons.</i> | | |
| Action 1: Develop a county-wide policy for best practices in accessibility for all county facilities and programs. | 2025 | County Administrator |
| Action 2: Develop a municipality or township-based self-evaluation and transition plan to work toward access for all and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance. | 2026 | County Administrator |
| <i>Objective 4: Bayfield County government departments support school districts, libraries, municipal and tribal human service programs.</i> | | |
| Action 1: Develop a best practices guidance document detailing opportunities for County support of schools, libraries, and municipal and tribal human services programs. | 2025 | Human Services & Health Department |
| Action 2: Develop an ongoing calendar of County grant or other funding opportunities benefit that could school districts, libraries, and municipal and tribal human services departments | 2025 | County Administrator |
| <i>Objective 5: Actively support area non-profits and encourage public private collaboration to solve problems.</i> | | |

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| Action 1: Develop an ongoing calendar of County grant or other funding opportunities benefit that could area non-profits with missions that are in alignment with County objectives. | 2025 | County Administrator |
| Action 2: Develop a best practices guidance document detailing opportunities for County support of area non-profits with missions that are in alignment with County objectives. | 2025 | County Administrator |

Goal 3: Support and strengthen essential services to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the community.

| | Target Timeline | Responsible Party |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Objective 1: Response times for EMS, police, fire, and rescue services are established for each geographic area of the County and services are coordinated to meet these response times.</i> | | |
| Action 1: Develop a master list of emergency response agencies across the county, organized by municipality or township | 2024 | Emergency Management & Sheriff |
| Action 2: Develop a guidance document, working with municipal or township emergency management leadership, for optimal response times | 2025 | Emergency Management |
| <i>Objective 2: Broadband access and cellular reception are county-wide.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 3: Onsite wastewater treatment, sanitary sewer service, stormwater management, and water supplies are safe and environmentally sound.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 4: Solid waste disposal and recycling facilities are available throughout the County.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |

Goal 4: Recognize the value and everyday importance of Bayfield County's parks and community centers, libraries, civic buildings, and cultural assets by investing in their maintenance and improvement.

| | Target Timeline | Responsible Party |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Objective 1: Create outdoor recreation opportunities throughout the community for easy access. Focus on recreation "deserts".</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 2: Invest in library capital improvement projects whenever possible to ensure their strong role in communities.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 3: Encourage regular utilization of public facilities (Town, City, Village and Tribal Facilities) throughout the county to help ensure their use, upkeep and value.</i> | | |
| | | |
| <i>Objective 4: Support outdoor youth activities to create a strong appreciation and lasting value of our outdoors.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 5: Support efforts that help maintain high water quality in all communities.</i> | | |
| Action 1: | | |
| <i>Objective 6: Identify and develop means of financing more energy efficient infrastructure including the counties ageing housing stock.</i> | | |
| Action 1: Develop a 5-year Capital Improvements Program to identify and plan for future utility and facility needs/upgrades. | 2025 | Maintenance |
| Action 2: Develop an inventory of all County buildings with HAVC systems older than 20 years | 2025 | Maintenance |
| Action 3: Identify grant programs or state/federal funding that will fund the replacement of all HVAC systems older than 20 years old with high efficiency HVAC systems | 2026 and beyond | |

WORKGROUP ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS

| | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|
| | | County Administrator |
|--|--|-------------------------|