



City of Cudahy Comprehensive Plan

Interviews Summary

As a part of comprehensive plan due diligence, interviews were held with key stakeholders and government agencies to discuss their plans, initiatives, ideas and concerns as they relate to City of Cudahy. Discussion topics varied by interview; including land use, pace and location of development and redevelopment, housing, transportation, economic development, community resources, facilities, and services. Interviews were led by Vandewalle & Associates and were conducted in July and August of 2008. A list of interviewees is on the reverse side of this summary.

The following are the key themes or points of discussion that have been drawn from the interviews.

- There is significant potential for South Shore collaboration on housing improvement programs; redevelopment, safety and aesthetic improvements along shared corridors; as well as joint marketing of the South Shore communities as great places to live and do business.
- Citizen groups, the City of Cudahy, the Cudahy School District, Cudahy Recreation Department, and the Milwaukee County Parks Department can work together to increase nature-based activities and uses in Cudahy's City and County Parks, particularly those along the lakeshore. Creative partnerships and shared funding opportunities would increase the viability of projects.
- The flight paths over Cudahy and the anticipated new runway at General Mitchell International Airport (2021) challenge particular land uses (residential within the 65 DNL noise contour, and development in general within the Runway Protection Zones) but land use conflicts can be mitigated through insulation and development standards and City zoning that responds to flight paths. Meanwhile, the City benefits through airport-supporting land uses and the 6,000 jobs concentrated at the airport. Unfortunately, due to the Airport's existing layout, a backdoor entrance to the Airport through Cudahy is unlikely.
- The Cudahy School District and Board of Education are responding to the District's declining enrollment by exploring alternatives, and working to address deferred maintenance while reducing operation costs due to finite funds.
- The District's quality of education is strong, but challenged somewhat by rising turnover within its schools each year—Cudahy's schools score highly compared to peer schools and the State, but there is a general disparity between the scores of students who continue all the way through the Cudahy K-12 District and more transient students. Cudahy benefits from neighborhood schools, strong art and athletic programs, and strong parental support and involvement in its schools.
- The airport-area communities can capture more of the associated spending and engage in additional business outreach. Area municipalities should determine what they want from their airport proximity, and then make a concentrated push toward that end.
- Downtown Cudahy's vitality should be restored through additional daily-needs destinations serving adjacent residential areas.

CUDAHY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN INTERVIEWS

Alderman Terry Witkowski

City of Milwaukee

July 23, 2008

Mayor Al Richards and Ralph Voltner, City
Administrator

City of St. Francis

July 22, 2008

Mayor Tom Zepecki and Tammy Mayzik, City
Administrator

City of South Milwaukee

August 28, 2008

Superintendent Jim Heiden

Cudahy School District

July 22, 2008

Dan Vnuk

Cudahy Historical Society

July 23, 2008

Airport Director Barry Bateman

Pat Rowe, Communications

Kevin Demitros, Airport Planner

Jim Zsebe, Airport Engineering and Cudahy
Plan Commission member

Scott Schuck, Noise

General Mitchell International Airport

August 6, 2008

James Keegan, Chief of Planning

James Ciha, Landscape Architect

Milwaukee County Parks

July 22, 2008

Larry Hammond

Ladish Co.

July 28, 2008

Bill Otis

Patrick Cudahy, Inc.

July 28, 2008