BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Brown County

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LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE
Citizen Rep Stan Kaczmarek

LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024
5:30 PM
Room 200, Northern Building
305 E. Walnut Street
Green Bay, WI

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COMMITTEE MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

I. Call Meeting to Order.
II. Approve/Modify Agenda.
III. Election of Chair.
IV. Election of Vice Chair.
V. Set date, time, and location for regular Land Conservation Subcommittee and Planning, Development & Transportation Committee meetings.
VI. Approve/Modify Minutes of March 26, 2024.

Comments from the Public

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION

1. Director's Report.
   a. Soil Test Phosphorus Mapping Project.
   b. Tinedale Farms Expansion.
   c. AOC Local Leadership Council Formation.
   d. ARPA Project Update: Project 78 (Cover Crop/No-till Incentive Program), Project 79 (East River Water Trail).

Other

2. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.
3. Adjourn.

Notice is hereby given that action by the Committee may be taken on any of the items which are described or listed in this agenda.

Please take notice that it is possible additional members of the Board of Supervisors may attend this meeting, resulting in a majority or quorum of the Board of Supervisors. This may constitute a meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the purposes of discussion and information gathering relative to this agenda.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 18.94 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Land Conservation Subcommittee** was held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 in Room 200, Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, WI.

Present: Chairman Norb Dantinne, Vice-Chair Stan Kaczmarek, Supervisor Ray Suennen, Supervisor Salvador Sierra, Supervisor Tom Friberg, Supervisor Kevin Gannon
Also Present: County Conservationist Nick Peltier and other interested parties.

I. **Call Meeting to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dantinne at 5:30 p.m.

II. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

Motion made by Supervisor Gannon, seconded by Stan Kaczmarek to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. **Approve/Modify Minutes of February 27, 2024.**

Motion made by Supervisor Suennen, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Comments from the Public None.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION

1. **East River Water Trail Phase I- RFP approval.**

County Conservationist Nick Peltier stated initially this was going to go in phases, but with the deadlines to get on contract to secure the ARPA funds and fulfill the obligations with the federal government and the county, they rolled this together into one RFP. Peltier spoke to the project noting this will make the East River more accessible to people, beautify it, and make it a destination people would want to recreate. He further spoke to the RFP, which was provided in the agenda packet. The proposal should be in the $400,000 range and should utilize almost all the ARPA funds, which also includes the kayak launch designs, that were already in progress. They have almost a million dollars slated for this project, including Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Funds. Phase 2 will be similar, on the east side of the river, but mostly on private lands verses exclusively municipal.

Motion made by Stan Kaczmarek, seconded by Supervisor Gannon to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. **Budget Adjustment Request (24-030): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.**
   a. **USDA Climate Smart Agronomy Grant (Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance).**
   b. **East River & Lower Fox Mainstem Cropland targets BMP implementation (Wi DNR).**

Peltier informed these were projects on their radar, but they didn't have good enough specifics to put them in the budget when budget was going through its own approval. He further spoke to the grants and what they're using them for.

Motion made by Supervisor Friberg, seconded by Supervisor Suennen to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **Director's Report.**

Peltier followed up with and provided highlights from the Wisconsin Land and Water Association annual meeting, which was in town March 6-8. Stan Kaczmarek informed he also attended, there were over 40-breakout sessions, and all that he attended were very good. Next year will be back in Green Bay as well.

a. **ARPA update: Project 78 (Cover Crop/No-till incentive program), Project 79 (East River Water Trail).**

Peltier reiterated his comments under Item 1 regarding Project 79. As discussed, two meetings ago, regarding Project 78 Cover Crop/No-till budget, they reallocated some funds and had them on contracts to go out for no-till incentives this year on cover crops that were planted last fall.

4. **Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.** None.

5. **Adjourn.**

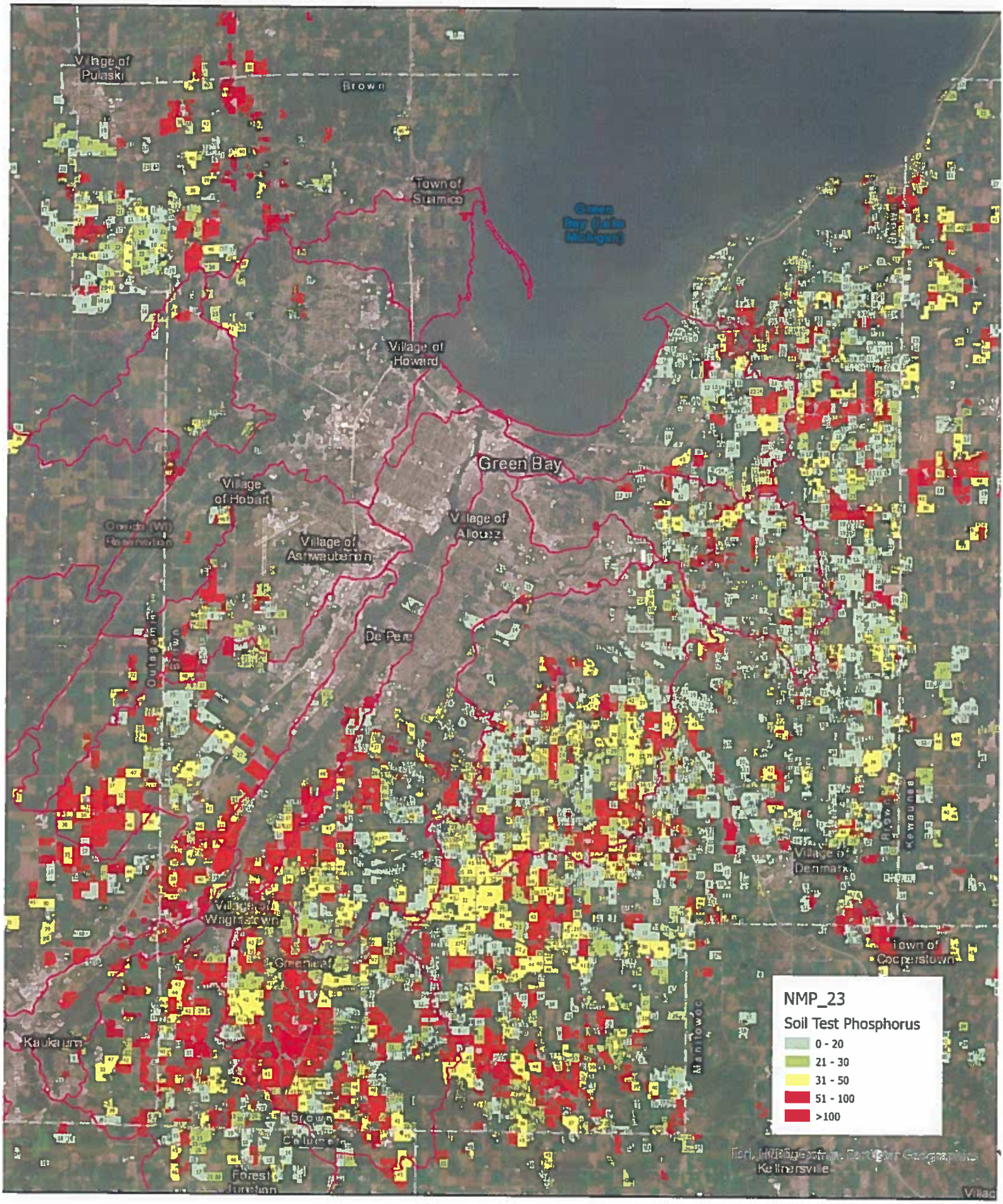
Motion made by Stan Kaczmarek, seconded by Supervisor Gannon to adjourn at 5:49 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia A. Loehlein
Legislative Specialist

Soil Test Phosphorus

2023



DRAFT Charter: Lower Green Bay & Fox River Area of Concern Local Leadership Council

Background

The Lower Green Bay & Fox River Area of Concern (AOC) encompasses the last seven miles of the Fox River, stemming from the De Pere Dam to the mouth of the river, and a 21 mi^2 area of the lower bay of Green Bay. While the AOC remains one of the most ecologically important regions in the Great Lakes and supports a diverse community of fish and wildlife, a long history of degradation from legacy sediment contamination, habitat loss and conversion, and water quality issues has resulted in severely degraded natural resources. The intent of the AOC program, coordinated through the DNR Office of Great Waters (OGW) in consultation with many stakeholders, is to repair a range of natural resource issues and bring the AOC on par with other less degraded areas of the Great Lakes.

Natural resource issues that the AOC program targets are defined as "Beneficial Use Impairments" (BUIs). In the Lower Green Bay & Fox River AOC, a total of 13 out of the 14 BUIs were listed as "confirmed" or "suspected" in 1993. To date, 3 of the 13 BUIs listed have been removed. The removal of BUIs typically occurs after implementation of one or more management actions that make substantial progress toward addressing the issue, several smaller-scale collective actions that are often too numerous to list, and/or the implementation of federal, state, and local policies (such as the Clean Water Act). The list of BUIs, management actions that make substantial progress toward addressing them, and their current status is included in the table below.

BUI	Management Actions	Status
Restrictions on Dredging Activities	Lower Fox River PCB Cleanup Project and WPS Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Cleanup	Removed
Fish Tumors or Other Deformities	Lower Fox River PCB Cleanup Project and WPS MGP Cleanup	Suspected
Bird or Animal Deformities or Reproduction Problems	Lower Fox River PCB Cleanup Project and WPS MGP Cleanup	Impaired
Restrictions on Fish and Wildlife Consumption	Lower Fox River PCB Cleanup Project and WPS MGP Cleanup	Impaired
Degradation of Benthos	Lower Fox River PCB Cleanup Project and WPS MGP Cleanup and Lower Fox River Watershed Water Quality Improvements	Impaired
Degradation of Phytoplankton and Zooplankton Populations	Lower Fox River PCB Cleanup Project and WPS MGP Cleanup and Lower Fox River Watershed Water Quality Improvements	Impaired
Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations	Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Populations Management Action Plan Implementation	Impaired
Restrictions on Drinking Water Consumption, or Taste and Odor Problems	None to date	Recommended Removal
Beach Closings	None to date	Impaired
Eutrophication or Undesirable Algae	Eutrophication Management Action Plan Implementation currently being drafted	Impaired
Degradation of Aesthetics	None to date	Removed
Tainting of Fish Flavor	None to date	Removed

Once all BUIs have been removed, the AOC can go through the "delisting" process, which removes the AOC designation for the region. Removal of the AOC designation does not indicate that all natural resource issues are solved, but rather that the area has achieved parity with other less degraded areas of the Great Lakes. Continued work in the area then transfers to the Lakewide Action and Management Program (LAMP). DNR will be coordinating a broader Green Bay Basin Blueprint to provide a bridge from the AOC and LAMP program efforts in the near future, and these updates will be provided to the Local Leadership Council as that work progresses to discuss potential integrations.

Local Leadership Council Goals

Communities surrounding the AOC boundaries represent a range of socio-cultural and economic features that may impact AOC decision making, implementation of management actions, and communications to constituents. As a result, DNR has requested that municipal leaders and organizations come together to collectively:

1. Participate in AOC decision-making:
    a. Assist in defining management actions for the Eutrophication or Undesirable Algae BUI.
    b. Determine and communicate if there is support for recommending the removal of a BUI through respective constituency, as appropriate.
    c. Determine and communicate if there is support for recommending the delisting of the AOC through respective constituency, as appropriate.
2. Provide feedback on the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Populations and Eutrophication or Undesirable Algae Management Action Implementation Plans:
    a. Identify the potential co-benefits inherent in AOC plan implementation, such as opportunities to improve access to the water, environmental justice considerations, improved shoreline property resiliency, economic factors, workforce development opportunities, etc. and recommend actions that will elevate and encourage the realization of those co-benefits.
    b. Identify the potential burdens inherent in AOC plan implementation, such as the potential to cause "green gentrification", implement projects that communities can't maintain, etc. and recommend mitigating factors to address those burdens.
3. Identify and troubleshoot potential risks associated with the overall effort, a suite of projects, or individual projects.
    a. Are there local, state, or federal permitting hurdles we will need to address?
    b. What are sustainable methods of maintaining project integrity (e.g., addressing invasive species, long-term maintenance, etc.)?
4. Elevate understanding and knowledge of AOC implementation efforts to constituents and relevant networks, partners, and stakeholders.
    a. Define the key community, commercial, and industrial groups that need to be aware of the overall effort, a suite of projects, and/or individual projects.
    b. Determine what are the best methods of communication to those constituents.
    c. Direct and provide feedback on the development of communications pieces with consistent messaging/branding.

Background Materials – **Teams Site Link**

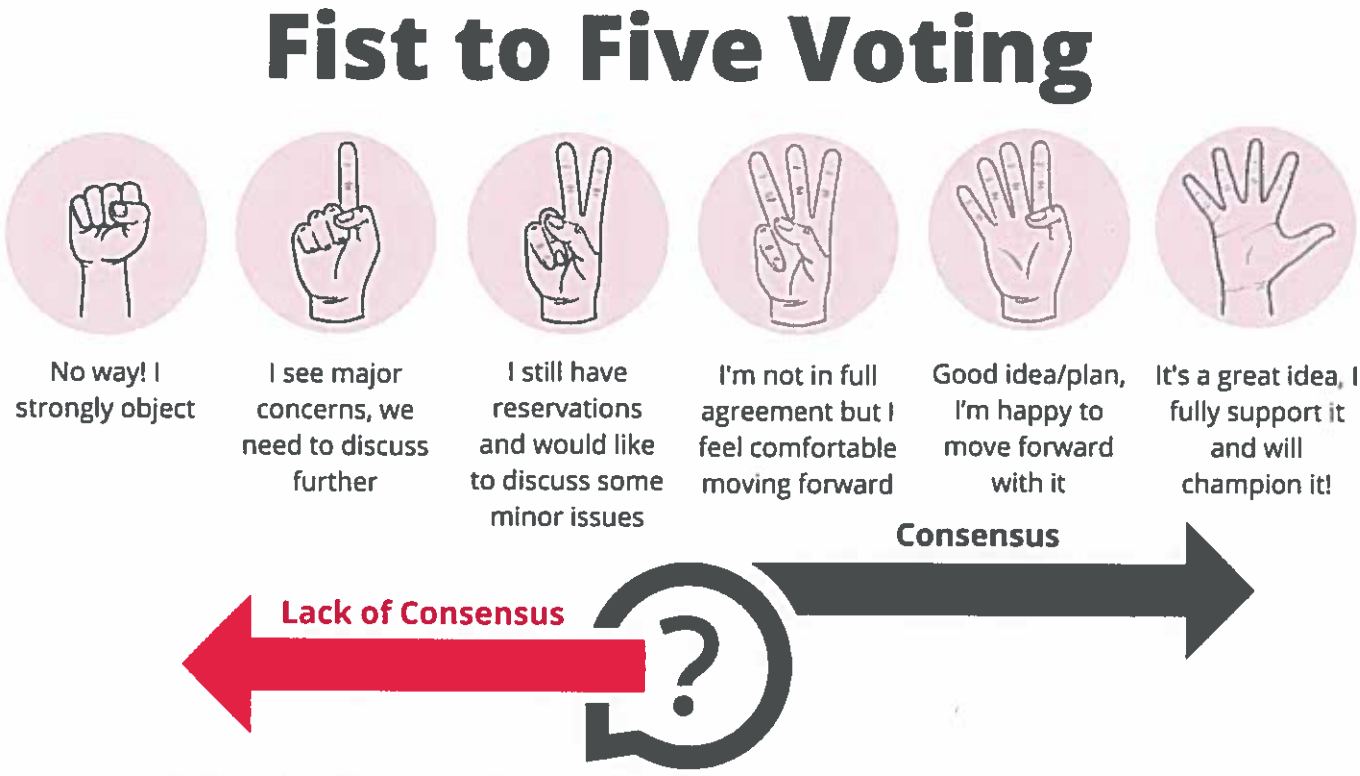
- 2020 – 2021 Lower Green Bay and Fox River Area of Concern Remedial Action Plan
- Lower Green Bay & Fox River AOC Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Populations Management Action Plan

Roles and Responsibilities

- *DNR Office of Great Waters*: Leads the coordination and development of overarching AOC delisting strategies through consultation with various stakeholder groups. Facilitates the Local Leadership Council and Technical Work Groups.
- *New North, Inc.*: Leads the coordination and facilitation of the Regional Community Advisory Committee.
- *Local Leadership Council*: Participates in AOC decision-making, provides feedback on implementation strategies, troubleshoots issues that may arise through AOC implementation and recommends mitigating measures, provides perspectives beyond the conservation community, and elevates understanding and knowledge of AOC implementation through constituency and relevant networks.
- *Regional Community Advisory Committee*: Trusted and established regional community leaders that represent communities beyond municipal boundaries (e.g., Hmong, Hispanic, veteran status, disability status, etc.) and can speak to those communities lived experience, goals, needs, and identity as it pertains to natural resource management.
- *Technical Work Groups*: Take direction from Local Leadership Council and Regional Community Advisory Committee to integrate local and regional community perspectives into work products.
    - *Implementation Work Group:* Clearly outlines and updates implementation plans and communicates those to the Local Leadership Council and troubleshoot issues associated with project design and implementation.
    - *Communications and Outreach Work Group*: Guides development of a strategy for community engagement and outreach and develop consistent branding and messaging to be shared through established networks of DNR, Local Leadership Council, and Regional Community Advisory Committee.
    - *Education, Training, and Workforce Development Work Group*: Identify opportunities to provide K-12 and post-secondary education, job training, and workforce development to encourage stability and growth of jobs that have a nexus to AOC project implementation and other regional natural resource management initiatives.

Decision-Making Structure

We will use a consensus-based decision-making approach whereby members will indicate their level of agreement with the proposed decision based on the "Fist to Five" method.



- If any fists are raised, consensus cannot be reached.
- If most responses are 2 fingers and below, the facilitator will know that additional work is needed to gain true consensus by the group.
- If most responses are primarily 3 fingers and above, the group will accept the decision.

Group Operating Principles

- We are committed to collective action and integrated governance.
- We check our assumptions about each other and act as good neighbors.
- We are inclusive of a range of stakeholder perspectives and interests.
- We hold ourselves accountable to balancing environmental, social, and economic interests.
- We do not influence decisions for individual gain.

Group Operating Agreements

- Start on time. End on time.
- Be present. Give this work and your fellow participants your full attention. Limit use of electronic devices.
- Cameras on for virtual meetings.
- Encourage understanding. Speak plainly, ask questions, listen for understanding, allow some silence.
- Share your perspective.
- Do not bring the group a dead cat without a shovel. Be prepared to present solutions when presenting challenges.
- Be responsible for your own needs.

Local Leadership Council Members

The Local Leadership Council is a group of 12 - 15 municipal and tribal representatives who have an interest in and experience with locally relevant priorities and needs to integrate into AOC planning, implementation, and maintenance and monitoring efforts.

Name	Organization	Title
Matt Kriese	Brown County Parks	Brown County Parks Director
Mark Walter	Brown County Port	Business Development Manager
Nick Peltier	Brown County Land and Conservation District	County Conservationist
Larry Delo Marty Kosobucki	City of De Pere	City Administrator Parks and Recreation Director
Dan Ditscheit Melissa Schmitz	City of Green Bay	Park Director Resiliency Coordinator
Jeff Smudde	NEW Water	Director of Environmental Programs
TBD	Oneida Nation	TBD
Greg Baneck	Outagamie County Land and Conservation District	County Conservationist
Brad Lange Chris Clark	Village of Allouez	Village Administrator Parks Director
Joel Gregozeski Rex Mehlberg	Village of Ashwaubenon	Village Administrator Parks Director
Paul Evert Geoff Farr	Village of Howard	Village Administrator Director of Public Works

Name	Organization	Title
Alex Kaker	Village of Suamico	Village Administrator

Attendees that will be invited to specific meetings, based on agenda topics.

Name	Organization	Title
Juan Corpus – Regional Community Advisory Committee Representative	NEW North, Inc.	Vice President: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
Brian Glenzinski – Implementation Work Group Representative	Ducks Unlimited	Manager of Conservation Programs – Great Lakes Initiative
Communications and Outreach Work Group Representative	TBD	
Education, Training and Workforce Development Work Force Representative	TBD	

2024 Schedule & Milestones

*Materials for each event will be available on **project Teams Site**.*

	Event	Date	Discussion Topics

1	Kick-Off Meeting	February/ March	• Review AOC program highlights and implementation timeline.
			• Discuss draft Charter and integrated governance structure.
			• Review team schedule and milestones and adjust based on group feedback.
			• Provide brief project updates and discuss:
			  ○ Municipal and tribal representatives on various project teams.
			  ○ Potential co-benefits and challenges associated with each project.

2	Communications, Outreach, and Inclusivity	April/May	• Review action items from previous meeting.
			• Provide brief project updates and discuss:
			  ○ Any implementation opportunities/challenges we need to address.
			• Discuss communications and outreach needs/opportunities:
			  ○ Who are the community groups we need to be reaching out to.
			  ○ Who might be trusted leaders within community groups

	Event	Date	Discussion Topics
			not traditionally included in these initiatives. o Preferred methods of communication with constituents.
3	Education, Training, and Workforce Development	June/July	• Review action items from previous meeting. • Present and discuss communications materials that were developed and/or outreach efforts from previous meeting. • Provide brief project updates and discuss: o Any implementation opportunities/challenges we need to address. • Discuss opportunities for public/private partnerships that support education, training, and workforce development.
4	Demonstrating and Communicating Progress	August/ September	• Review action items from previous meeting. • Provide brief project updates and discuss: o Any implementation opportunities/challenges we need to address. • Discuss opportunities for community-based monitoring. • Discuss communication materials to demonstrate progress.
5	Long-term Maintenance and Project Sustainability	October/ November	• Review action items from previous meeting. • Provide brief project updates and discuss: o Any implementation opportunities/challenges we need to address. • Discuss methods of addressing long-term maintenance associated with projects and any concerns about sustainability/resiliency. o Invasive species maintenance. o Constructed feature maintenance.
6	Year-end Review and Planning for 2025	December/ January 2025	• Review action items from previous meeting. • Provide brief project updates and discuss: o Any implementation opportunities/challenges we need to address. • Review accomplishments from 2024. • Discuss agenda items/topics for 2025.