ST. CROIX COUNTY

LAND INFORMATION PLAN

2010-2015

St. Croix County, Wisconsin
Land Information Office
October, 2010

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***Use of Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance List Server*. The County has access to the Internet and e-mail that allows for use of the clearinghouse and technical assistance list server. We are participating and will continue to monitor the development of the clearinghouse and standards adopted.** **20**

***Use of Land Information Officer education and training funds. St. Croix County will* continue to use the WLIP Training and Education Grant to attend WLIA conferences and workshops .** **20**

I. Administrative Standards Not Associated with Foundational Elements **20**

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. Agency and Contact Information

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B. Participants in the Planning Process

St. Croix County Community Development Committee
- Steve Hermsen, Chair
- Sharon Norton-Bauman, Vice Chair
- Richard Marzolf
- Gene Ruetz
- Lorin Sather
- Robert Shearer
- James Stauffer

St. Croix County Land Information Advisory Council
- Beth Pabst, Register of Deeds
- Laurie Noble, County Treasurer
- Shar Croes, Real Property Lister
- Steve Hermsen, County Board Supervisor
- David Fodroczi, Planning & Zoning Director, Representative of Land Information Office
- Sandy Gehrke, Realtor
- Casey Swetlik, Emergency Services Director, Public Safety Representative
- Brian Halling, County Surveyor

Ad Hoc Plan Participants
- Tom Boron, Information Technology Director
- Bob Heise, Director Land, Water and Parks

C. Summary of Plan

The purpose of this document is to update St. Croix County's Land Information Plan as required by the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP) and the Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA). The content and format of the Plan is based upon the WDOA's "Uniform Instructions for Preparing County Land Information Plans" dated December 2009. Plans are an indispensable component of the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP). Given the enormous benefits of geographic and land information system technologies to date, these Plans, in combination with the with annual GIS Inventory data, promise continued benefits for all levels of government in Wisconsin. These benefits include:

- reduction of duplication of effort across all levels of government;
- more accessible, useable, complete, accurate and timely information available to local units of government, state and federal agencies, public utilities and the public;
- improved analysis, decision support, and program administration;
- increased ability to provide greater public access to geographic information via the Internet.

The Plan is intended to provide public agencies, private organizations, and other interested parties with current information about St. Croix County's land information activities. St. Croix County may occasionally amend the Plan as technology and issues change.

St. Croix County has a number of completed and ongoing land information improvement projects including Public Land Survey System remonumentation, geodetic control, parcel mapping, parcel record management, and a land information website. New initiatives for ongoing projects will continue to expand and improve PLSS monumentation, geodetic control, and parcel record management. New land information projects include improving and integrating the County's existing property address data and mapping for wireless E911. Full implementation of the plan will be dependent upon the availability of funds and staff time to meet all goals.

D. St. Croix County Websites serving Land Information

Interactive GIS Map: http://stcroixwi.mapping-online.com/StCroixCoWi/
Register of Deeds: "Laredo" real estate record: https://tapestry.fidlar.com/Tapestry2/

II. LAND INFORMATION PLAN

A. Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of the St. Croix County Land Information Plan is the ongoing development and improvement of a countywide land records and information system that provides more accessible, accurate, efficient and economical products and services for all participants. This can best occur through expanding efforts to communicate, coordinate and cooperate within and between the County, other units of government, and the private sector.

The planning horizon for this plan is five years. This relatively short timeframe is a reflection of the rapidly changing technology and related cost structure for improving land records and information systems. The timeframe for some implementation activities will be contingent upon technological changes, cost advantages and the opportunities or barriers such trends present. Activities that could likely extend beyond the five year planning horizon will be identified.

The goals and objectives for this plan are organized around the foundational elements established by the Wisconsin Land Information Program. They were developed in response to issues and needs identified in our initial inventory process and updated to reflect past accomplishments and new priorities. They should serve as benchmarks for evaluating the progress and results of the activities identified in the balance of the plan.

Goal 1: Develop and improve the geographic framework throughout the County to maximize the accuracy and integratibility of land information.

Objective 1.1: Complete remonumentation and acquisition of county coordinates on the remaining 1% of the Public Land Survey System section and quarter section corners.
Objective 1.2: Continue maintenance program of Public Land Survey System corners and related evidence and records.
Objective 1.3: Maintain the countywide geodetic reference system and implement additional control obtained through the Wisconsin Height Modernization project in conjunction with surrounding counties and related state and federal agencies.

Goal 2: Improve the accuracy, consistency, accessibility and integration of parcel-based land information.

Objective 2.1: Use the completed PLSS information to improve the spatial accuracy of the countywide parcel data.
Objective 2.2: Evaluate and improve the County's land information website for user accessibility and ease of use.
Objective 2.3: Evaluate adopting the WLIA Parcel Geo-Locator Standard that attempts to meet both local and state needs.
Objective 2.4: Evaluate the feasibility of a unified, automated system for managing the County's parcel records with participation for interested municipalities and access for private interests.

Objective 2.5: Complete the land regulation permit system integrating parcel records and county code enforcement records.

Goal 3: Improve the design and maintenance of zoning maps among all zoning jurisdictions within the County.

Objective 3.1: Develop a countywide system of zoning maps that includes municipal and county zoning.
Objective 3.2: Improve the scale and accuracy of existing floodplain and shore land delineation maps based on improvements to the County's geographic framework.
Objective 3.3: Update and maintain the County's existing land use maps which were originally developed in 1974 and updated in 1993. The county will use the orthophotography obtained from the 2010 WROC project as source for updating existing land use.

Goal 4: Develop institutional arrangements between County departments, units of government and public/private interests that encourage efficient and economical production and management of all types of land information.

Objective 4.1: Maintain a County Land Information Council to ensure coordination and integration of County land information improvements.
Objective 4.2: Establish a process for developing projected revenues and expenditures of County land records funds generated by the $8.00 per document surcharge on real estate document recording fees.
Objective 4.3: Incorporate municipal participation in the development and implementation of the County Land Information Plan and related grant requests.
Objective 4.4: Prepare, review and recommend grant-in-aid requests to the Wisconsin Department of Administration in accordance with applicable statutes and administrative code.
Objective 4.5: Prepare an annual report of plan and program activities to submit to the Wisconsin Department of Administration and update this plan at least once every five years.
Objective 4.6: Coordinate land information activities with related State and Federal agencies to avoid duplication and foster the cost-effective integration of public land information.
Objective 4.7: Coordinate land information activities with related private interests to avoid duplication and foster the cost-effective integration of public and private land information.

Goal 5: Develop and promote opportunities for communication, education and training that will encourage and support the implementation of this plan and development of a countywide land information system.

Objective 5.1: Foster communications among producers and users of land information within the County and between counties.

Objective 5.2: Develop an ongoing and annual education and training program for County officials and staff responsible for land information management.
Objective 5.3: Identify and promote land information education and training opportunities to other users and producers of land information within the County.

Goal 6: Improve and maintain public access to land information.

Objective 6.1: Continue to provide and expand Internet access and applications to land information and records.
Objective 6.2: Establish and maintain technical design and distribution procedures for land information that maximize accessibility at a reasonable cost.
Objective 6.3: Establish land information distribution policies that are consistent with the Wisconsin Open Records Law.
Objective 6.4: Protect confidential information from unauthorized access and other land information from unauthorized manipulation.
Objective 6.4: Seek to improve public access to land information through expanding and improving land information and land records websites.

The internal and external needs of St. Croix County and its priorities are:

1. Completion of remonumentation of PLSS corners throughout the county;
2. Acquisition of geodetic control/coordinates on PLSS corners;
3. Acquisition of elevation data, using lidar, to upgrade floodplain maps;
4. Integration of countywide addressing systems;
5. Conversion/Implementation of uniform, countywide parcel numbering system;
6. Maintain existing digital land information applications and map coverages;
7. Improve database design and management for new and existing land information;
8. Implementation of automated permitting process; and
9. Development of new initiatives described in section II. C. on page 8.

The priority data set that the county needs but does not have and is difficult to acquire relates to internal and external need three, acquisition of elevation data, using lidar. The county floodplain maps recently redone by FEMA are woefully inadequate and an accurate lidar dataset would allow these maps to be redone. The main obstacle to acquiring this information is cost. Other data sets are continually maintained and published in industry standard formats to ensure use by others.

St. Croix County's land records management software platforms include Fidlar Technologies for recording land records documents, GCS Software for real estate assessment and taxation records, and ESRI for GIS data and applications. Fidlar Technologies' Avid software is used to import and index recorded documents in the county's database. The document images and index data is made available to the public through the Internet using two different software systems with different levels of service. The first program is Laredo and is an Internet access program designed for land records users firms that need to frequently access the land records in the St Croix County Register of Deeds office. The second program is Tapestry and is an Internet access program designed for the occasional user of land records.

GCS Software is use by the Real Property Lister and Treasurers office to manage the real estate assessment and tax processes. The Real Property Lister uses GCS to prepare and maintain accurate ownership and description information for all parcels of real property in the county. GCS allow easy import and export of records to local assessors. The Treasures Office uses GCS to manage the tax billing and tax collection process. The parcel assessment and tax data is easily exported to integrate with the GIS system.

The County's GIS software vendor is Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI). ESRI is a member of the Open GIS Consortium and supports open GIS data transfer and data sharing requirements. Currently, Planning and Zoning, Land and Water, the County Sheriff and the Highway department all have ArcGIS software licenses. The County Highway and Land & Water Conservation Departments also use AutoCad software with various software extensions. The County will attempt to ensure integration and retrieval of data by using commonly accepted hardware platforms, software, and database design principals.

St. Croix County's map data is based on the Wisconsin Coordinate Reference System, St. Croix County. This system is mathematically relatable to the North American Datum (NAD) 83(91). Tabular land data, records and documents are generally referenced by parcel identification number, property address and PLSS location.

The County's land information system relies on client server architecture and a wide area network. Land records applications, software, and data are updated on a continual basis as budgets and workload allow, maintaining industry standards and best management practices for database design. Metadata is maintained for each layer in the GIS system, and it is maintained or being developed for tabular land records data. Digital files of spatial and tabular data are routinely distributed in hard copy and various digital formats to a variety of private and public users.

B. Progress Report on Ongoing Activities

1. Geographic Frameworks

The County Surveyor's Office (CSO) is continuing to take the lead role in developing and implementing a countywide geodetic reference system. In 1994, the St. Croix County GPS Network was developed as a densification of the Wisconsin HARN. Geodetic coordinates are now available for all GPS stations in the network. Further densication efforts are in progress, mainly the Wisconinsin height modernization program. And WISCORS (Wisconisn Continuously operation reference stations).

The CSO also continues remonumentation of PLSS corners throughout the County. Less than 1% of the County's 2,351 corners remain to be remonumented. The CSO continues an aggressive PLSS maintenance program.to ensure the perpetuation of remonumented corners. The CSO continues to establish St. Croix County coordinates on all PLSS corners visited as part of ongoing remonumentation and maintenance activities.

2. Parcels

The County Planning & Zoning Department, Land Information Office has completed parcel mapping for all municipalities in the County. The parcel layer is continually maintained as real estate transactions occur. The production data for parcel mapping is stored in a continuous county parcel fabric in an ESRI file geodatabase and published to shapefiles for distribution and use. The County will migrate the production parcel data to an ESRI SDE Geodatabase to allow multiple editors.

The Land Information Office is continually improving the spatial accuracy of the parcel mapping fabric as new survey control is obtained and workload allows.

3. Zoning Mapping

Zoning maps for the 19 towns with zoning were converted to ESRI shapefiles in 1999 and 2000. The zoning data has been vertically integrated with the parcel data and converted to an ESRI file geodatabase.

4. Wetlands Mapping

We have acquired the WDNR digital wetlands map files through the West Central Wisconsin RPC as part of the RPC's preparation of our County Development Management Plan. We have since imported the files to our system and converted them to the WISCRS, St. Croix County projection.

5. Related Planning Mapping

The RPC also acquired or developed several countywide digital map layers as part of our County Plan development. They include land use, land cover, street centerlines, closed depressions, woodlands, steep slopes, environmental corridors and various natural features. All map files and corresponding metadata have been delivered to the County and converted to the County projection.

C. New Initiatives

1. Proposed Projects

a. Register of Deeds Document Scanning.

St. Croix County has entered a contract with Fidlar Software and its subcontractor, US Imaging Inc., to scan 576 books with approximately 368,000 images. The scanned images will be enhanced for legibility and indexed for research. The project is budgeted and planned for in late 2010 and early 2011. A combination of land records retained fees and public access retained fees have been budgeted in 2010 and 2011.

b. Enterprise Address System/Software.

The county will evaluate developing a new address management workflow. Retained fees have been budgeted for software purchase in 2011. The project would be completed by current staff with possible assistance from consultant services budgeted in 2011.

c. Convert parcel numbers to the WLIA parcel geo-locator standard.
The county will evaluate the need and effort to convert parcel numbers to the standard.

d. WROC participation.
The county is participating in the Wisconsin Regional Orthophotography Consortium and has contracted with Ayres Associates to receive 12" pixel resolution color orthophotography in late 2010. This photography is included in the 2010 retained fee budget.

e. System Expansion.
Evaluate and implement opportunities to expand system capabilities and applications in transportation, public safety, public health, local government and utilities.

f. System Integration.
Continue to evaluate and implement opportunities to improve system design, functionality and performance.

g. Data Distribution.
Continue to evaluate and improver procedures and policies for data distribution that both maximize availability for users and minimize time and expense for the county.

2. Assistance Requested.

a. The County has actively sought input from other counties, agencies, consultants and vendors prior to implementing projects and will continue to do so for our new initiatives. The County is connected to the WLIP Land Information Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance List Server. The County looks to the WLIP and WLIA to provide practical standards along with a functional model for basic data sets.

b. The county continues to fund parcel mapping maintenance and improvement and parcel administration and assessment information with non Land Information Program funding. The county register of deeds office continues to fund software and recording activities with non Land Information program funding.

c. The county budgets land information program public access retained fees to provide a county website and develop new applications.

d. The county will participate. We will develop a participation plan when the statewide repository is made available.

e. The County will continue to adhere to County Purchasing Policy and State statutes for procurement of services/products related to this Plan. Multiple quotes are

obtained for all products greater than $500 in value, and a formal Request for Proposals is used for purchase of professional services greater than $5,000 in value.

3. Problems Encountered

We have successfully dealt with unanticipated problems as they have occurred. There would be a problem if the WDOA adopts policies that would limit the use of WLIP funds for our planned activities. At this time, the only foreseeable problems would come from a lack of staff and funds to move ahead with all aspects of this plan.

A project that the county would like to undertake but has not due to lack of funding is LIDAR. The county would use LIDAR to create 2' contour maps to potentially update the FEMA floodplain maps. In the past, the county successfully used contribution based grants to supplement retained fees to develop the digital parcel layer and obtain digital orthophotography. The lack of contribution based grants is a major obstacle.

D. Custodial Responsibilities

Following are the St. Croix County departments and their land information custodial responsibilities. Text within {} indicates whether we HAVE, would LIKE, or WILL accept custodianship of the data. An asterisk * indicates that the records are filed or maintained for the operation of the office but are not a custodial responsibility. The authority for custodianship is noted in ( ).

1. Register of Deeds

Recorded deeds, mortgages, plat maps, certified survey maps, and other related documents. {Have}(§59.43)
Tract index of recorded documents. {Have}(§59.43)
Grantor/grantee index of recorded documents. {Have}(§59.43)

2. Planning & Zoning Department

GIS base map layers. {Have}
Property address database/coverage. {Have}(§59.54)
Digital parcel maps. {Have}(§70.09)
Existing hard copy parcel maps. {Have}(§70.09)
Zoning maps for unincorporated areas. {Have}(§59.69)
Wetlands and FEMA maps. {*}
Aerial photos. {*}
USGS 7.5 minute quad maps {*}
Orthophotography {Shared}(Internal)
Private sanitary system site plans. {Have}(§59.69)
Permit database. {Have}(§59.69)
Description and ownership information of all parcels of property. {Have}(§70.09)
Information on school and other special district codes. {Have}(§70.09)
Tax rates and special assessment information. {Have}(§70.09)

3. County Surveyor/Planning & Zoning

Information on PLSS corners, including monument record forms and section summary sheets. {Have}(§59.45)

Information on the high accuracy network (HARN) densification in the county. {Have}(§59.45)

Private survey maps. {Have}(§59.45)

Field notes and other survey source documents. {Have}(§59.45)

4. Land & Water Conservation

Soils maps and tables. {*}

Orthophotography {Shared}

Historical aerial photos. {*}

NRCS Wetland Maps {*}

5. Highway Department

Right-of-way plats and construction plans. {Have}(§83.09(7)(g))

6. Treasurer

Maintain tax information for all parcels. {Have}(§59.25)

E. Framework Data, System Implementation & Statewide Standards

1. Geographic Positioning Reference Frameworks

Geodetic control networks. In 1994 St. Croix County completed geodetic densification from stations within the Wisconsin High Accuracy Reference Network (HARN). The network consists of 49 stations which were established using the "Guidelines to Support Densification of the WI High Accuracy Reference Network (HARN) Using Global Positioning System (GPS) Technology", which were current at that time. There is adequate horizontal geodetic control strategically placed throughout the County to meet County and other users needs. Coordinate values are available in State Plane, St. Croix County and Latitude and Longitude, which can be converted to other coordinate systems. The County assumes the custodial responsibility for the densified control stations.

The county geodetic network is in the process of further densification with the implementation of the Wisconsin Height Modernization Program, which will result in an additional 37 gps control stations and 62 vertical benchmarks.

Public Land Survey System. The County has a corner remonumentation / maintenance program that complies with the requirements of WI Administrative Code AE 7.08 and/or state statute, and we plan to continue the program countywide. We are establishing coordinates on the PLSS corners using a combination of conventional survey techniques and GPS technology meeting or exceeding the FGDC Third-order, class I accuracy standard. Coordinates are maintained in the Wisconsin St. Croix County Coordinate System that is mathematically relatable to the North American Datum (NAD) 83(91). In addition, highway construction areas will be a priority as well. Other areas will be controlled as need and budget allows. The County maintains the custodial responsibility for the PLSS.

2. Orthoimagery and Georeferenced Image Base Data

Digital Orthophotos. The County acquired 6" pixel resolution digital orthophotography in the spring of 2004. The project was paid for with retained fees and a contribution based grants.

The county will obtain 2010 digital orthophotography through the WROC program, using budgeted retained fees and state and federal cost share money, and will assume custodial responsibility.

3. Elevation Data Products and Topographic Base Data

Digital Elevation Models. The County received ortho grade DEM's as part of the 2004 orthophotography project. The DEM's meet National Map Accuracy Standards for producing 1"=100' scale Orthophotos.

Contours. Through the 2004 orthophotography project 2' contours can be produced anywhere in the county without additional field work. This aspect of the project has provided the county with 15 square miles of 2' contours

4. Parcel Mapping

All parcel maps will be referenced to the lines of the public land survey system and will minimally be suitable for planning purposes and in many cases suitable for *assisting with* land title boundary or survey line determination. Our parcel maps are *not intended* to be a substitute for a certified land survey or guaranteeing title to property. Included in the Metadata or attribute database will be information that directs users to the original source document or recorded instrument. **All maps** that are disseminated will include the following disclaimer:

"IMPORTANT NOTICE – These maps are NOT survey maps. They were compiled from the plats and deeds on record with the Register of Deeds Office, and filed with the Real Property Lister and Surveyor file, and in no manner represent a field survey. They should be used for reference purposes only."

Geodetic Reference. Parcel maps will be referenced to the Wisconsin St. Croix County Coordinate System, which is mathematically relatable to the North American Datum (NAD) 83(91).

Parcel ID. The County is continuing a dual parcel identification system. However, the County will evaluate converting the current parcel number to the WLIB compliant PIN as part of this Plan.

5. Parcel Administration and Assessment Information

St. Croix County's database will support integration of digital parcel maps with property and ownership information by linking data through key fields.

Parcel ID. The County is continuing a dual parcel identification system However, the County will evaluate converting the current parcel number to the WLIB compliant PIN as part of this Plan.

Tax data. The tax database is designed so information can be accessed by owner name, computer number or property address. Related links will be added as software is updated. Future plans also call for linkages with the document imaging system.

Site Address. Site Addresses are maintained as an attribute in the assessment database.

Owner Name and Address. Owner name and address information can be accessed through the assessment database.

Real estate transactions, Liens, Evidence of Title, Easements, Covenants. Register of Deeds maintains a tract index. Searches can be made by grantor, grantee, legal description, document number or property address.

Easements. Spatial capture of easements is planned for the parcel Geodatabase model.

Tax exempt lands. A code exists as an attribute in our assessment database.

Assessment class. Tax exempt lands. These are carried as a code in the assessment database and could be linked to the GIS parcel coverage.

Optical Imaging. Imaging of documents relating to property transactions in the Register of Deeds began in January 1999. The image will be linked to the converted digital parcel coverage. As time and budget allows, we plan on inputting documents from prior years. Imaging may also be expanded to include other land records such as building permits, tax records, survey maps etc.

6. Street/Road Centerlines, Address Ranges, Address Points

Transportation Network. The County plans to maintain its existing planimetric base map that includes centerlines of all named public and private roads in the county as well as railroads.

Rights of way. The right-of-way of public roads is part of the parcel mapping process.

Centerlines. Centerlines are maintained as part of the parcel mapping process and will be integrated with address ranges.

Address ranges. Reconciliation of street addresses and street network system. The County is developing address ranges for the County's E-911 system. We plan to work with Emergency Communications Department, local municipalities and the DOT in reconciling conflicting addresses, road names and road locations as we become aware of them.

Address Point, Structure and/or driveway. Address points are currently maintained as part of the county house number map series. The address points will be reconciled with the street address ranges as part of the Wireless E911 project.

Road Names. Road names will continue to maintained as part of the county parcel mapping process.

Ability to support Wireless E911. The Land Information Office is working closely with the Emergency Communication Department in ensuring that the county GIS will support Wireless E911.

7. Hydrography, Hydrology, and Wetlands Mapping

Hydrography. Surface water features and drainage features are mainained and provided to users as needed.

Watersheds. The county has watershed boundaries provided by the DNR.

Wetland. The county has obtained the DNR Wetlands data adhering to s. 23.32, Wis. Stats.

8. Soils Mapping, Land Cover and other Natural Resource Data

Soils mapping activities. Digital conversion of St. Croix County was completed by USDA-NRCS with County financial support from 1995-97. This SSURGO certified process included digital orthophotography developed by USGS from 1992 NAPP photography. The balance of our soil survey, originally published in 1978, remains to be updated as the NRCS schedule allows.

Land Cover. The county has land cover data developed from orthophotography as part of the Development Management Plan adopted in 2000. The county will update the land cover data using WROC orthophotography for the county comprehensive plan.

Geology. St. Croix County has a bedrock geology layer obtained from the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey.

9. Land Use Mapping

Mapping of existing land use. The RPC completed a land use coverage as part of the development of the County Development Management Plan. The County's assessment database includes the DOR assessment code for land use, ie. residential, commercial, ag, etc. A graphic representation can be generated dynamically from the parcel base map.

Mapping of planned land use. The county planning and zoning department has been compile the future land use maps and complete a county wide map as part its comprehensive plan.

10. Zoning Mapping

Zoning Districts. The County has digital maps that depict general zoning districts. As amendments are made, these changes are made to the map files in the appropriate town. Zoning districts are mapped in accordance with the St. Croix County Zoning Ordinances.

Shorelands. St. Croix maintains shoreland layer of lakes and ponds buffered at 1000 feet and streams bufferd at 300 feet.

Floodplains. St. Croix County has the official FEMA floodplain maps and the DFIRM files.

Environmental corridors. St. Croix County maintains an environmental corridor layer developed by buffering environmental features.

11. Election and Administrative Boundary System

County Boundaries. Minor civil division boundaries. We incorporated existing coverages from both internal and external sources into our GIS system and will update as needs arise. These boundaries will be updated as parcel mapping is updated for annexations and spatial accuracy.

Utility districts. Tax incremental financing districts. School districts. Lake districts. Public lands. The assessment database includes a code designating which parcels are within these districts. We can generate these layers using the assessment database and parcel layer. mapping is completed.

Election boundaries. The county maintains and updates precincts, wards and supervisory districts.

School districts. School district boundaries were created from files on record and the integration of assessment records with the parcel map. School district boundaries will continue to be maintained.

Census geographies. Block groups and tracts will be obtained from the US Census and maintained at the county for redistricting.

12. Critical Infrastructure and Facilities Management

Emergency service districts. The county maintains emergency service ditrict layers to enable 911 call mapping.

Fire/Police Stations. The county maintains fire and police station location layers to enable 911 call routing.

Hospitals and health care facilities. The county maintains hospital location layers to enable 911 call routing.

Government facilities. The county maintains government facilities location layers for 911 and other infrastructure applications.

13. Database Design and System Implementation

Design Evaluation. County staff reviews the design to determine the functionality of the data model or application. The design is reviewed to ensure compliance with applicable standards and open data exchange.

Project Approach. County land information and information technology staff coordinate to ensure the final design meets the needs of the end users. The project is completed through setting tasks.

Timeline. Timelines are created for the individual task and project as a goal for completion.

Metadata. The County maintains a data dictionary for GIS coverage and land records tabular data created by the County.

Security/Privacy. Database security is provided through normal information technology operating procedures. Privacy of land information data is controlled through the adopted privacy policy.

Implementation and Maintenance Strategy. After the county completes the scoping requirements and designs a database the database is implemented and maintained according to any applicable state or county regulations and office operating procedures.

GIS Data Model. The ESRI Geodatabase Parcel Model was used as the basis for the St. Croix County parcel data mode

F. Public Access

Use of technology to facilitate efficient access. The County currently has 7 public access computer terminals available to the public for searching tabular property ownership data. The County has implemented a County web site, and we will evaluate the feasibility of further expansion to make our GIS data easily accessible. We will continue to monitor developments of the WLIP Internet Land Information Clearinghouse.

Data Sharing polices. St. Croix County adheres to the Wisconsin Open Records Law for access to any land record. Therefore we charge only the cost of reproduction. We do not copyright or license our data.

Open access to data in existing format. St. Croix County adheres to the Wisconsin Open Records Law for access to any land record. St. Croix County offers both tabular and graphic data for purchase in industry accepted interchange formats.

System security. The County's wide area network has built-in security that is managed by the Information Technology Department.

Privacy Policy. St. Croix County adheres to the Wisconsin Open Records Law and complies with State statutes for access to restricted records. The County relied heavily on the Wisconsin Land Information Association Information Policy Hand Book in developing its privacy policy for internet publishing of tax parcel records. The County does not allow searches by owner name on the public web site, however owner names are returned through other search methods. Owner name searches are allowed for subscription users. We will be monitoring the industry and the public concerns related to privacy and distribution of data.

Use of the $2 fee designated for land information and housing data Sec. 59.72(5)(b)3. The County has used this fee to implement and maintain the land information website. During the 2010 and 2011 the county will use a of portion of this fee for Register of Deeds deed book scanning project.

G. Integration and Cooperation

1. Integrative/Cooperative Relationships

St. Croix County has actively encouraged and supported integration and cooperation activities related to land records modernization as cited elsewhere in this plan and as indicated in past WLIP grant applications. The County plans to continue these relationships as appropriate.

2. Potential Partners & Projects

We are in the process of or are interested in developing relationships for parcel mapping, parcel records management and address mapping with the 14 cities and villages in the county to better integrate and standardize these system elements. In the future we would also like to develop a consortium of partners to develop a regularly scheduled orthophotography program.

3. Data Shared or Used

These integrative/cooperative relationships would provide for more uniform, consistent data for parcel and address maps and better access to parcel records throughout the entire county.

4. County Department Participation

We have a Land Information Committee of department heads and staff that coordinates land information activities throughout the county. The Planning and Zoning Department including the Real Property Lister, Register of Deeds, Land and Water Conservation, Surveyor, and Emergency Communications have all benefited from the WLIP through increased access to new and better data, new software, databases, and applications.

5. Municipality and Other Agency Participation

The County supports and encourages collaboration and data sharing among local municipalities and other agencies. The county provides all land information to local municipalities for free or the cost of reproduction.

H. Communication, Education, Training and Facilitated Technical Assistance

Documentation of County data, models, and processes. County staff attended State Cartographer's Office Wisconsin Metadata Workshop in the spring of 2002. The County maintains a data dictionary for data sets we create and will continue to update and maintain the dictionary.

Resources available. We will continue to participate in videoconferences, workshops, seminars, user groups, etc., as appropriate and where budget allows. We will continue to work with other counties and use the technical list server for technical assistance where more assistance is needed.

Identification of customers needs. The County has a Land Records Committee made up of the County departments who have land related interests. Discussion is held and customer needs prioritized.

Coordination of education/training with agencies, associations and educational institutions. As opportunities arise, we will participate as appropriate and where budget allows. St. Croix County has been a presenter at WLIA events. We will continue to share our experiences with others.

Use of technology to facilitate education and training. We have access to a satellite down link facility, the UW Extension ETN system and to the Internet.

Use of Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance List Server. The County has access to the Internet and e-mail that allows for use of the clearinghouse and technical assistance list server. We are participating and will continue to monitor the development of the clearinghouse and standards adopted.

Use of Land Information Officer education and training funds. *St. Croix County will c*ontinue to use the WLIP Training and Education Grant to attend WLIA conferences and workshops.

I. Administrative Standards Not Associated with Foundational Elements

The St. Croix County Land Information Plan represents an agreement between the County and the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA). This agreement is intended to effectuate the objectives of the Program as embodied in the enabling legislation. In order for a Plan to be acceptable to the DOA, the DOA and the county agree and consent as follows below.

1. The County agrees to observe and follow statutes relating to the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP) and other relevant statutes.

2. The County agrees to permit the Wisconsin Department of Administration access to books, records and projects for inspection and audit.

3. The County agrees to complete the annual GIS Inventory Survey.

4. The County agrees to update the plan every 5 years and in the interim if the plan should change.

5. Development and implementation of an acceptable plan confers certain benefits on local government within a county, including continued eligibility for Program funding. A peer review process will be used to assess plan acceptability by the land information community.