

CHAPTER 1. Introduction & Administrative Organization

PURPOSE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDs)

A Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) is a locally initiated planning process designed to create employment opportunities, foster more stable and diversified local economies, improve local conditions, and provide a mechanism for guiding and coordinating the efforts of local individuals and organizations concerned with the economic development of the region.

SWWRPC was created in May 1970 by executive order of the Governor of Wisconsin in response to petitions received from Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette and Richland counties. Authority for the Commission is provided in Wisconsin State Statutes, Section 66.945. The map below depicts the five counties within the SWWRPC. SWWRPC is an area-wide planning and development agency serving the five counties of Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette and Richland.

Southwest Wisconsin is a designated Economic Development District under the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965. The U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) provides financial assistance to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy as well as for community development planning designed to assist areas in alleviating economic distress. A CEDs is required to qualify for EDA assistance.

SWWRPC MISSION

The mission of SWWRPC is to provide intergovernmental planning and coordination of community development planning, economic development, and transportation. In response to local and regional goals, the Commission and its Staff work to enhance fiscal and physical resources and to balance local and regional development, preservation, conservation, and social priorities.

REPRESENTATION

Formal representation on the Commission consists of three commissioners from each of the five counties within the region. A listing of all present commissioners is included at the beginning of this document.

