

McLean County Regional Planning Commission



1987 Annual Report



McLean County Regional Planning Commission

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Honorable Mayor and Members of the
Bloomington City Council

President and Members of the
Normal Board of Trustees

Chairman and Members of the
McLean County Board

Citizens of Bloomington, Normal, and
McLean County

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The McLean County Regional Planning Commission is pleased to present, herewith, its Twentieth Annual Report covering activities for the year ending December 31, 1987. The report indicates the major aspects of the year's work as well as the goals that remain to be accomplished in the future.

The staff and the Commission are indebted to those responsible for the cooperation of all governmental units and those individuals who have given so generously of their time, advice, and inspiration in assisting our work of regional planning. We hope that we can merit their continued support and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Randall Middleton
Chairman



Kenneth J. Emmons
Executive Director



Responsibilities

The Commission is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of a Comprehensive Regional Plan for McLean County, the preparation of special planning studies for units of local government, and for providing the County Board and County Zoning Board of Appeals; the Bloomington City Council, Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commis-

sion, and Board of Zoning Appeals; the Normal Board of Trustees, Planning Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals with certain basic planning services designed to assist them in making day to day decisions which have planning, preservation, and/or development implications.

Membership

The following persons were members of the McLean County Regional Planning Commission on December 31, 1987:

McLean County

Joseph Sommer, Chenoa
Charles Armitage, Normal
John English, Bloomington
James Ensign, Bloomington
Anne Nadakavukaren, Normal — Vice Chairman

Bloomington

Gary Scheets
Karl Passmore
James Yates — Secretary/Treasurer

Normal

Randall Middleton — Chairman
Paul Mattingly
Garrett Scott

Technical Staff

On December 31, 1987, the staff consisted of six persons—the Executive Director, two Principal

Kenneth J. Emmons, Executive Director
Mary Anne Nelson, Principal Planner
Michael Wyneken, Principal Planner

Planners, one Associate Planner, a Secretary, and a Part-time Secretary.

Bill Givens, Associate Planner
Linda Rigdon, Secretary
Loretta Steil, Part-time Secretary

Transportation

Upon its inception, the McLean County Regional Planning Commission was designated by the Governor of the State of Illinois to function as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Bloomington-Normal Urbanized Area. The McLean County Regional Planning Commission was charged with maintaining and promoting the continuous, cooperative and coordinated (3-C) transportation planning process. To meet the 3-C obligation, the staff maintains traffic surveillance, short-range and long-range transportation planning programs. These programs are focused on achieving development of the Bloomington-Normal transportation system, based upon the Street and Highway Plan, which was adopted in 1980.

To carry out the 3-C process, the staff reviewed all proposed preliminary plans and Planned Unit Developments submitted to Bloomington and Normal. In addition zoning map amendments were also re-

viewed. Staff review of these proposals ensures that new development or a change of land use will not have an adverse impact on the transportation system. Proposed changes to the system are also scrutinized. In 1987, besides the subdivision review, the staff also examined alternatives to providing Oakland Avenue with a tunnel under the proposed cross-wind runway at the Bloomington-Normal Airport. The staff also reviewed and concurred with a recommendation for a new intersection on Veterans Parkway, west of U.S. 150. This intersection will allow for development of tracts of land on both sides of the highway. Both the Technical and Policy Committee agreed the intersection is necessary, and approved the change in the Street and Highway Plan to show the new intersection. Project reviews, under Executive Order 12372, are performed on all proposed transportation improvement projects, requiring Sub-state Clearing-house review, in McLean County.

Planning for the future requires studying the present to determine the current status of the situation before plans can be made. The staff conducted three separate parking studies in downtown Bloomington. Two of the studies were done to assess the current usage and need for short-term parking in two different sections of the Central Business District. The third project was an extensive parking demand projection based upon the Bloomington Renaissance proposal for the South Square and the expansion of the Law and Justice Center and the relocation of County offices from the Old Courthouse to the Expanded Law and Justice Center. The staff also reviewed a parking plan proposed by a private organization. The staff also conducted an origin and destination study on Franklin Avenue at Brokaw Hospital, in Normal. Expansion of the hospital will necessitate relocating Franklin Avenue, and the study results were used to answer questions concerning traffic patterns near the hospital.

The staff worked with the City of Bloomington Engineering Department, Public Services Department and Police Department and the Bloomington-Normal Public Transit System to develop a prioritized snow removal plan for the City. The plan designates primary and secondary routes and non-routes. The plan serves as an important tool for coordinating the plowing crews.

The staff annually conducts an On-Board Ridership Survey of each of the buses of the Bloomington-Normal Public Transit System. With the aid of Illinois State University students, the staff records the locations of all boarding and alightings of each bus, for a complete day. Transfers are also recorded. The results of the study are forwarded to the Transit System for their use in making service decisions. The raw data is also used to ascertain aspects of ridership not part of the regular format of the ridership report.

Providing transit service to disabled persons is also of concern to the staff and the transit system management. To that end, based on the results of public meetings and hearings held during the summer of 1987, in which McLean County Regional Planning Commission staff participated, the Transit System formed the Disabled Persons Transportation Advisory Committee which is made up of transit system and McLean County Regional Planning Commission staff, social service agency representatives and disabled persons. The mission of the committee is to survey the disabled persons in Bloomington-Normal to determine what their transportation needs are. The committee was formed in October. The first meetings were devoted to getting organized.

The McLean County Regional Planning Commission staff is also responsible for producing two required documents, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Title VI Report. The Title VI Report

documents minority populations and their representations on various boards and commissions, as well as operating characteristics of the transit system in relation to minority populations. The TIP is a two-part transportation planning document. It is divided into the current fiscal year annual element and the medium-range multi-year element. The document contains all of the street and highway projects budgeted by Bloomington, Normal, McLean County and the State of Illinois within the Bloomington-Normal Urbanized Area. Projects must be listed in the TIP before they can be implemented. The TIP serves as a planning tool, coordinating the activities of the four governmental units.

Project Reviews Under Executive Order 12372

The objective of the Executive Order 12372 Project Review Process is to provide state and local officials with a mechanism for influencing proposed federal assistance in light of their own comprehensive planning goals and objectives.

Applicants applying for federal funding are required to notify the McLean County Regional Planning Commission (the Sub-state Clearinghouse) and the Office of the Governor (the State Clearinghouse) of their intent to apply for federal funding.

The following is a list of federal applications reviewed by the Commission during 1987:

1. The Towanda Township Library's application for a Public Library Construction Grant.
2. The City of Bloomington's Community Development Block Grant Program application for Year 13.
3. The Illinois Department of Transportation's Early Warning Stage "Notice of Intent" for bridge replacement on F.A.S. 2484 (Illinois Route 165) between Cooksville and Colfax in McLean County.
4. The City of Bloomington Community Development Department's application for a H.U.D. Urban Development Action Grant for Downtown revitalization projects.
5. The East Central Illinois Agency on Aging, Inc.'s application for continued Federal funding for F.Y. 88.
6. The Bloomington-Normal Urbanized Area Transportation Improvement Program for F.Y. 1988-1992.
7. Bridge reconstruction along Illinois Route 54 (FAP 71) between Bellflower and the McLean County Line.
8. The Randolph Township Library's application for a Public Library Construction Grant.

9. The Y.W.C.A.'s application for a grant to be used to purchase a van for the R.S.V.P. Program.
10. The Y.W.C.A.'s application for a grant for a senior citizen volunteer recognition program for participation in the R.S.V.P. Program.
11. The Illinois Department of Transportation's second "Notice of Intent" for Design Stage for bridge replacement of F.A.S. 2484 (Illinois Route 165) between Cooksville and Colfax in McLean County.

Technical Assistance McLean County

Zoning — The staff has prepared reports for the McLean County Zoning Board of Appeals concerning the following during 1987:

- 5 Zoning Map Amendments
- 1 Zoning Text Amendment
- 24 Special Uses
- 15 Variations

Subdivisions — The staff reviewed eight preliminary plans and four final plats for subdivisions during 1987. The staff also prepared an amendment to the text of the Subdivision Ordinance for McLean County during 1987.

City of Bloomington

Historic Preservation — During 1987 the staff served as recording secretary for 18 meetings of the Bloomington Historic Preservation Commission and assisted in the review of 21 Certificates of Appropriateness for exterior improvements to buildings in the City's S-4 zoned local historic districts, one National Register Historic District nomination application, and the production and publication of the City's Five Year Historic Preservation Plan. The staff also prepared the City of Bloomington Certified Local Government Annual Report for the City's 1986 fiscal year for submission to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.

Annexation Agreements — During 1987, the staff reviewed 15 annexation agreements for the City of Bloomington.

Zoning — During 1987, the staff has provided written recommendations to the Bloomington Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals and City Council concerning:

- 30 Zoning Map Amendments
- 3 Zoning Text Amendments
- 14 Special Use Permits

Subdivisions and Planned Unit Developments — During 1987, the staff has reviewed and provided

advice to the Bloomington Planning Commission and City Council on plans for 14 subdivisions and Planned unit developments.

Street and Alley Vacations — The staff reviewed two street or alley vacations during 1987.

Land Use Plan Amendments — The staff provided advice and recommendations to the Bloomington Planning Commission and City Council regarding three amendments to the City's Land Use Plan during 1987.

Town of Normal

Zoning — During 1987, the staff provided reports and recommendations, as part of the Town staff, the City Manager, Normal Town Council, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals concerning:

- 15 Zoning Map Amendments
- 4 Zoning Text Amendments
- 1 Special Use Permit
- 1 Amendment to a Special Use Permit
- 51 Zoning Variations

Subdivisions and Planned Unit Developments — The staff has prepared reports and recommendations, as a part of the Town staff, to the City Manager, Town Council and Normal Planning Commission on five preliminary subdivision plans, six preliminary development plans for planned unit developments, one amendment to a final plan for a planned unit development, and one revised preliminary development plan for a planned unit development.

Capital Improvements — The staff prepared maps depicting the location of capital improvement projects which were included in the Town's Five Year Operating and Capital Improvements Budget 1988-1989 through 1992-1993.

Normal Zoning Code — In cooperation with Normal's Building Commissioner, the staff prepared a comprehensive set of zoning text amendments intended to update and revise the existing Zoning Code, which was adopted in 1978.

Training Seminar — The staff participated in a training seminar that was conducted for members of the Normal Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Financial Report
 January 1, 1987 through
 December 31, 1987

Income:

Bloomington	\$ 25,000.00
Normal	25,000.00
McLean County	30,000.00
FHWA	57,190.76
UMTA	25,720.02
MCCAI	375.00
C. D. (Bloomington)	1,500.00
Bloomington School District 87	1,400.00
Bloomington Five Year Historic Preservation Plan	3,896.61
Interest Income	2,330.47
Expense Account Credits	974.39
	<u>\$ 173,387.25</u>

Expenses:

Books	\$ 361.75
Services	7,760.30
Dues	1,542.90
Equipment	—0—
Auto Expenses	1,248.18
General Insurance	1,584.00
Hospital Insurance	10,332.05
Supplies	1,579.16
Postage	1,200.00
Rent	12,825.00
Printing	1,155.55
Retirement	17,244.41
Unemployment Compensation	98.92
Salaries	133,547.92
Telephone	2,361.92
Travel	1,936.97
Sundry	—0—
Bloomington Five Year Historic Preservation Plan	1,732.32
White Place Historic District Survey	65.69
	<u>\$ 196,577.04</u>

Bank Balance	\$ 40,274.59
(1-1-87)	
Income	<u>173,387.25</u>
	\$ 213,661.84
Expenses	<u>\$ -196,577.04</u>
Bank Balance (1-1-88).....	\$ 17,084.80

Bibliography

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Report Date: September, 1988

Author: McLean County Regional Planning Commission

Performing Organization — McLean County Regional Planning
Commission

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Type of Report and Period Covered: Twentieth Annual Report

Abstract: This is the Twentieth Annual Report made by the McLean County Regional Planning Commission to the residents and supporting agencies within McLean County, Illinois. The report includes a resume of the Commission's activities for the year 1987, including work completed, financial statements, listing of members, and proposed work program.

Availability Statement: Limited copies of this report are available at no charge to the residents of McLean County, Illinois.

Price: \$2.00

