

**UTILITIES AND  
COMMUNITY  
FACILITIES  
ELEMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this section is to inventory existing utilities and community facilities in the Town of Linden. Utilities and community facilities, often referred to as public works, is the physical infrastructure that allows a community to function and grow. Community facilities may include libraries, municipal offices, schools, police stations, fire stations, parks, etc. Many of the community facilities are supported by utilities including water services, sewer system, stormwater drainage, electricity, etc. This section also includes projections of when the municipalities may need to upgrade utilities in order to efficiently and effectively support the needs of the population.

**Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(d)***(d) Utilities and Community Facilities*

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in the local governmental unit such as sanitary sewer service, storm water management, water supply, solid waste disposal, on-site wastewater treatment technologies, recycling facilities, parks, telecommunications facilities, power-generating plants and transmission lines, cemeteries, health care facilities, childcare facilities and other public facilities, such as police, fire and rescue facilities, libraries, schools and other governmental facilities. The element shall describe the location, use and capacity of existing public utilities and community facilities that serve the local governmental unit, shall include an approximate timetable that forecasts the need in the local governmental unit to expand or rehabilitate existing utilities and facilities or to create new utilities and facilities and shall assess future needs for government services in the local governmental unit that are related to such utilities and facilities.

**UTILITY AND COMMUNITY FACILITY POLICIES**

The following are the utilities and facilities policies (not in order of priority) for the Town of Linden.

- **Encourage well testing as a means of protecting drinking water supplies for private, individual well users.**

For rural residents, groundwater protection starts at home. The best and most important first step to safe drinking water is having homeowners test their wells. Providing reminders (perhaps through a mailing) for residents to check their wells can be a useful way for the Town to help protect public health.

There are a variety of contaminants that can be in well water and testing for them depends on the type and toxicity of the contaminant. At a minimum, all private wells should be checked annually for Coliform bacteria and nitrates. Other contaminants such as pesticides, lead, copper, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), arsenic, radium, boron, radon, and fluoride are tested on differing schedules, some on an as need basis, others only once for the life of the well.

- **Educate landowners on the management and maintenance of private septic systems.**

Proper siting of septic tanks and drain fields is extremely important in protecting groundwater, which is the Town of Linden's source of drinking water. Educate Town residents to be aware of their septic systems requirements which are explained fully in Comm 83, the State's new private septic system regulation that establishes standards and criteria for the design, installation, inspection, and management of private onsite wastewater treatment systems ("POWTS"). All septic systems need inspection and maintenance in order to function properly.

- **Develop a stormwater management strategy to protect ground and drinking water supplies.**

A Town level stormwater management strategy could outline recommendations and techniques to reduce soil erosion, retain or create buffer strips near surface waters, educate the public on non-point source pollution, emphasize conservation agricultural practices, and other such activities that all help reduce the amount of runoff entering the hydrologic system.

- **Develop a strategy for siting telecommunication ("cell") towers.**

Identifying ahead of time what locations are most suitable and desirable for telecommunication towers will give the Town some measure of control in where towers are placed in the community. This can help prevent towers being placed in locations that are offensive aesthetically or create negative impacts on the local environment.

- **Ensure that new development bears a fair share of capital improvement costs necessitated by the development.**

When approving new developments, be aware of the costs attributed to public works projects such as road or bridge improvements.

- **Guide new growth to areas that are most efficiently served with utilities.**

Extending public utilities (roads, water, sewer) to new development can be very expensive, especially if the development is far from the existing infrastructure. Refer to Section H, Land Use Element for recommended housing development locations in the Town.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES****WATER SYSTEM STATISTICS**

The hamlet Edmund, which is in the Town of Linden, has a municipal well that serves sixty-six customers, all of whom are classified residential. The rest of Linden's approximately 240 households get their drinking water from private wells.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS**

Wastewater from the approximately 300 Linden households is treated solely by private septic systems.

**SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICTS**

There is a special water district in Edmund.

**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**

Linden does not have a stormwater management strategy.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

See Map D.1 at the end of this section for locations of various community facilities and utilities.

**POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

The State Highway Patrol and the Iowa County Sheriff Department provide the Town of Linden with police protection. The Town is divided into three fire districts covered by the City of Mineral Point, the Village of Cobb, and the City of Dodgeville. If necessary, the Village of Linden is also called. The Cities of Mineral Point and Dodgeville and the Villages of Cobb, Highland, Montfort, and Linden provide rescue services.

**RECYCLING AND GARBAGE**

The Town of Linden operates a central drop-off location for all types of garbage and recycling. There is no curbside service.

**MUNICIPAL SHOP/ LIBRARY SERVICES**

The Town's Shop Building is located on 332 Church Street in the Village of Linden. Residents of the Town of Linden use public libraries in Mineral Point, Dodgeville, Belmont, Cobb, Livingston, and UW-Platteville.

**PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Three school districts serve Linden: Dodgeville, Iowa-Grant, and Mineral Point. Facilities in these districts include:

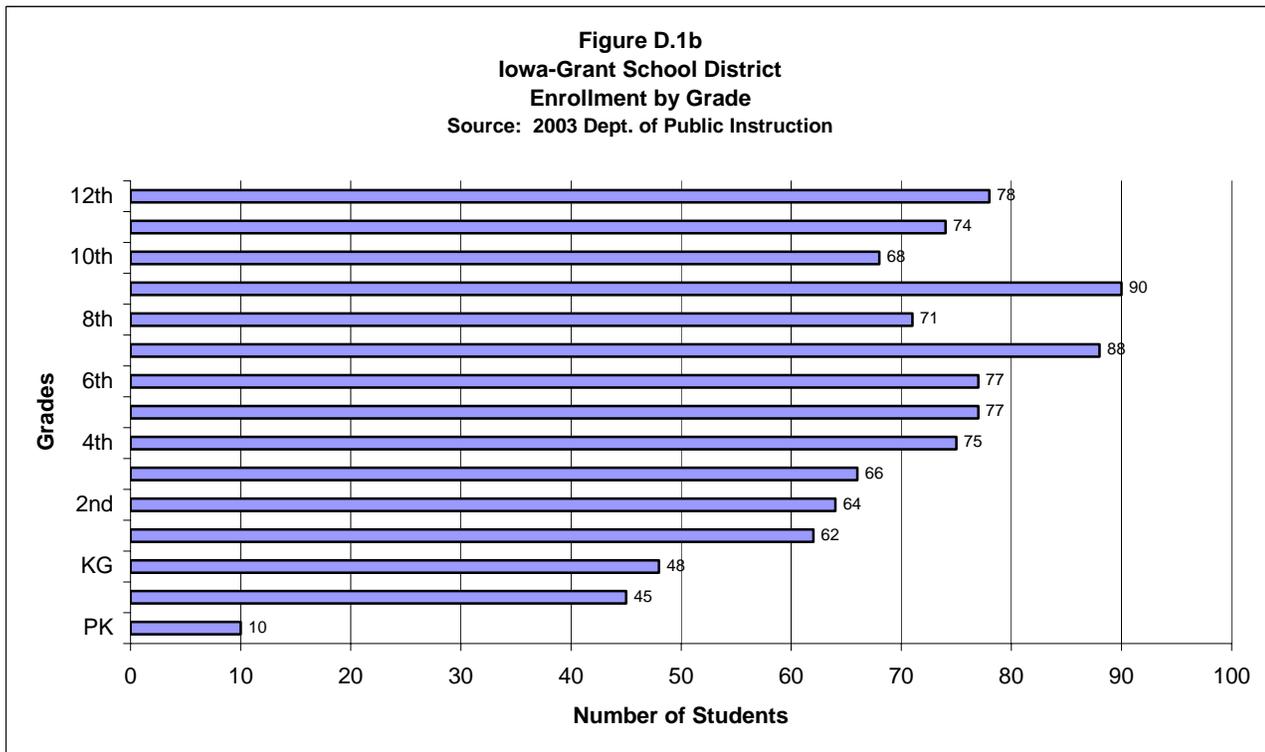
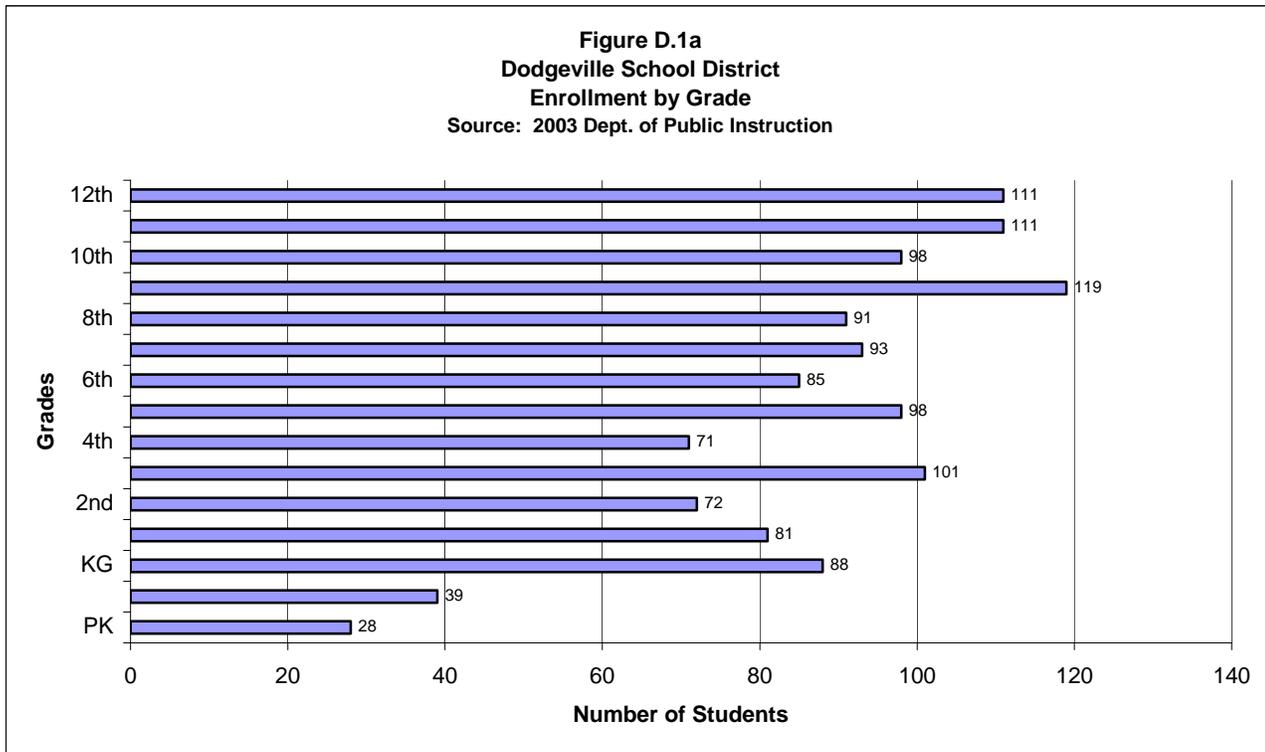
**Public Schools**

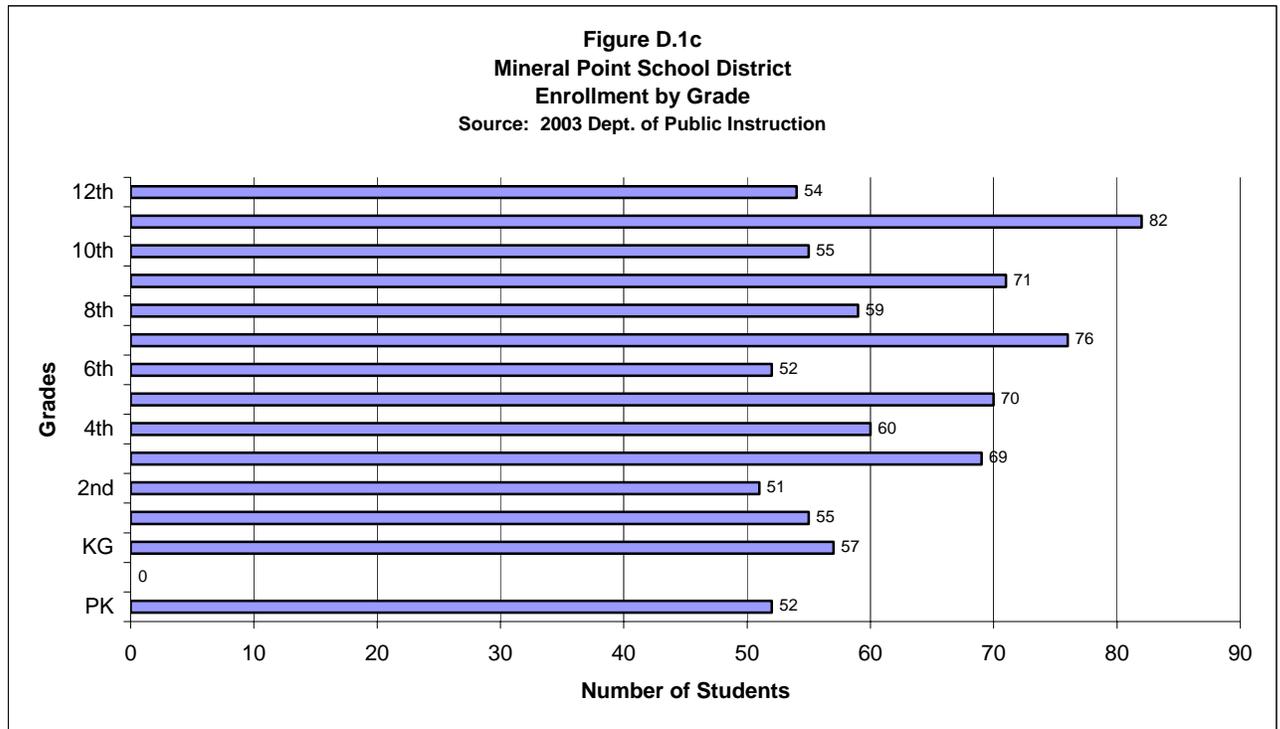
- Dodgeville Public Schools
- Headstart program coordinators
- Iowa-Grant Public Schools
- Mineral Point Public Schools

**Private Schools**

- St. Joseph's Catholic School, Dodgeville
- Voyager Hills Academy, Mineral Point
- St. Mary's, Platteville

According to Department of Public Education data, in 2003-2004 the Dodgeville School District had 1286 students, the Iowa-Grant School District had 993 students, and the Mineral Point School District had 863. Figures D.1a, D.1b, and D.1c below show the enrollment by grade in each District. See Map D.2 for all school districts in Iowa County.





### HIGHER EDUCATION

Nearby colleges and universities include

- University of Wisconsin, Platteville;
- Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, Fennimore;
- University of Wisconsin, Madison;
- Edgewood College, Madison;
- Madison Area Technical College, Madison;
- Upper Iowa University, Fayette, IA;
- University of Dubuque, Dubuque, IA.

These institutions offer educational opportunities including certificates, technical diplomas, associate, bachelor, and master's degrees.

### HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Bloomfield Manor, a skilled nursing facility is located in the Town. Residents also have access to a variety of other healthcare providers outside the Town.

#### Hospitals

- Memorial Hospital, Darlington
- Upland Hills Health Hospital, Dodgeville
- Mercy Health Center, Dubuque, IA
- Grant Regional Health Center, Lancaster
- St. Mary's, Meriter, UW Hospitals, Madison
- Southwest Health Center, Platteville
- Richland Hospital, Richland Center

There are two medical clinics in Mineral Point, several in Dodgeville, one in Highland, and many others within a 50-mile radius of the Town.

Other medical facilities used by Town residents are the Mineral Point Care Center and Sienna Crest Assisted Living in Dodgeville.

See Appendix D-3 for healthcare facilities in southwest Wisconsin.

**CEMETERIES**

Please refer to Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Element for information on local cemeteries.

**CHILDCARE**

There are no childcare facilities within the Town of Linden, although several childcare facilities are available outside the Town.

**PARKS AND RECREATION**

Please refer to Section E, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Element for information on local parks and recreation facilities.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER UTILITIES**

There are no telecommunication towers in Linden. The Town has not taken a position on the siting of future towers, as that is covered under County ordinances.

**COMMUNITY FACILITY/UTILITY PROJECTS**

No community facility/utility projects are planned at this time.

**UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITY AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

There are a number of state and federal agencies and programs to assist communities with public works projects. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs. Contact information is provided for each agency. To find out more specific information or which program best fits your needs contact the agency directly.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – RURAL DEVELOPMENT (USDA-RD)  
COMMUNITY FACILITIES DIRECT GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM**

The community facilities grant program provides grants to assist the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 people. The objective of the agency is to construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community facilities providing essential services to rural residents. This can include the purchase of equipment required for a facility's operation. All projects funded by the RHS grant program must be for public use.

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF WISCONSIN**

4949 Kirschling Ct  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
Phone: (715) 345-7615  
FAX: (715) 345-7669

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wi/>  
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/>

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM**

The community facilities loan program is similar to the grant program in that it provides funding for essential community facilities, such as schools, roads, fire halls, etc. Again, local jurisdictions must have a population of less than 20,000 to apply. Applications are funded based on a statewide priority point system. For more information on the loan program, visit the USDA-RD website or call the office listed above.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE (RUS)**

There are a number of available programs through USDA-RUS as part of the Water and Environmental Programs (WEP). WEP provides loans, grants, and loan guarantees for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, and storm drainage facilities in rural areas and cities and towns of 10,000 or less. Public bodies, non-profit organizations, and recognized Native American Tribes may qualify for assistance. WEP also makes grants to non-profit organizations to provide technical assistance and training to assist rural communities with their water, wastewater, and solid waste programs. Some of the available programs include:

- Water and Waste Disposal Direct and Guaranteed Loans
- Water and Waste Disposal Grants
- Technical Assistance and Training Grants
- Solid Waste Management Grants
- Rural Water Circuit Ride Technical Assistance

More detailed information can be obtained on any of the above programs by contacting USDA Rural Development Office.

### **WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES BUREAU OF COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (DNR-CFA)**

The Bureau of Community Assistance administers a number of grant and loan programs. The Bureau supports projects that protect public health and the environment and provide recreational opportunities. The Bureau has three major areas of programs, which include the following:

- **Environmental Loans**

This is a loan program for drinking water, wastewater, and Brownfield projects.

- **Environmental Financial Assistance Grants**

This is a grant program for non-point source runoff pollution, recycling, lakes, rivers, municipal flood control, and well compensation.

- **Land & Recreation Financial Assistance Grants**

This is a grant program for conservation, restoration, parks, stewardship, acquisition of land and easements for conservation purposes, recreational facilities and trails, hunter education, forestry, forest fire protection, household hazardous waste collection, dam rehabilitation and abandonment, dry cleaner remediation, and urban wildlife damage.

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES (WI-DNR)**

101 S Webster St  
Madison WI 53703

Phone: 608-266-2621  
Fax: 608-261-4380

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us>

These are the major program headings. There are numerous programs available for specific projects underneath these umbrella programs. For example, under the Environmental Loans Program, there is the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP). The SDWLP provides loans to public water systems to build, upgrade, or replace water supply infrastructure. For more detailed information on other programs, contact the Wisconsin DNR or visit the website listed above.

### **WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PUBLIC FACILITIES (CDBG-PF)**

This program is designed to assist small communities with public facility improvements. Eligible activities would include publicly owned utility system improvements, streets, sidewalks, disability accessibility projects, and community centers. Local governments including towns, cities, and counties are eligible. Federal grant funds are made available on an annual basis. The maximum grant for any single applicant is \$750,000. Grants are only available up to the amount that is adequately justified and documented with engineering or vendor estimates.

**WI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT**

PO Box 7970  
Madison, WI 53707  
Phone: 608-266-8934  
Fax: 608-266-8969

<http://www.commerce.state.wi.us>  
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/>

### **WISCONSIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PUBLIC FACILITIES (CDBG-PFED)**

This program helps underwrite the cost of municipal infrastructure necessary for business development. This program requires that the result of the project will ultimately attract businesses, create jobs, and invest in the community. More information is available from the Wisconsin Department of Commerce.