



Office of the Mayor

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Governor Jim Doyle
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 7863
Madison, WI 53707-7863

Re: Requesting a Veto of AB 260, Limiting Municipal Extraterritorial Plat Approval Powers

Dear Governor Doyle:

I write to you to urge that you veto AB 260, which prohibits municipalities from denying a land division in its extraterritorial jurisdiction on the basis of concerns over the proposed use of the land. The bill overturns *Wood v. City of Madison*, in which the Wisconsin Supreme Court held that a municipality can consider land use in its extraterritorial plat review process.

The extraterritorial provisions in the statutes recognize the importance to Wisconsin's cities and villages of being able to exercise reasonable control over land subdivision and development activities in the unincorporated areas near their borders, in order to assure orderly urban future growth and effectively implement their long-range master plans – including land use plans. There are multiple tools that can be used to help implement municipal plans in extraterritorial areas, but extraterritorial subdivision approval authority is an important component of the mix; and while land use is only one among many standards of subdivision approval, it may be a deciding factor in some situations.

Assembly Bill 260 will eliminate one of the best tools available to municipalities to manage the pattern of development on its borders and implement its smart growth plan. Consequently, this will lead to more urban sprawl and development patterns that may be in conflict along our jurisdictional borders.

For the aforementioned reasons, I urge you to veto AB 260. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

David J. Cieslewicz
Mayor

DJC/cjp