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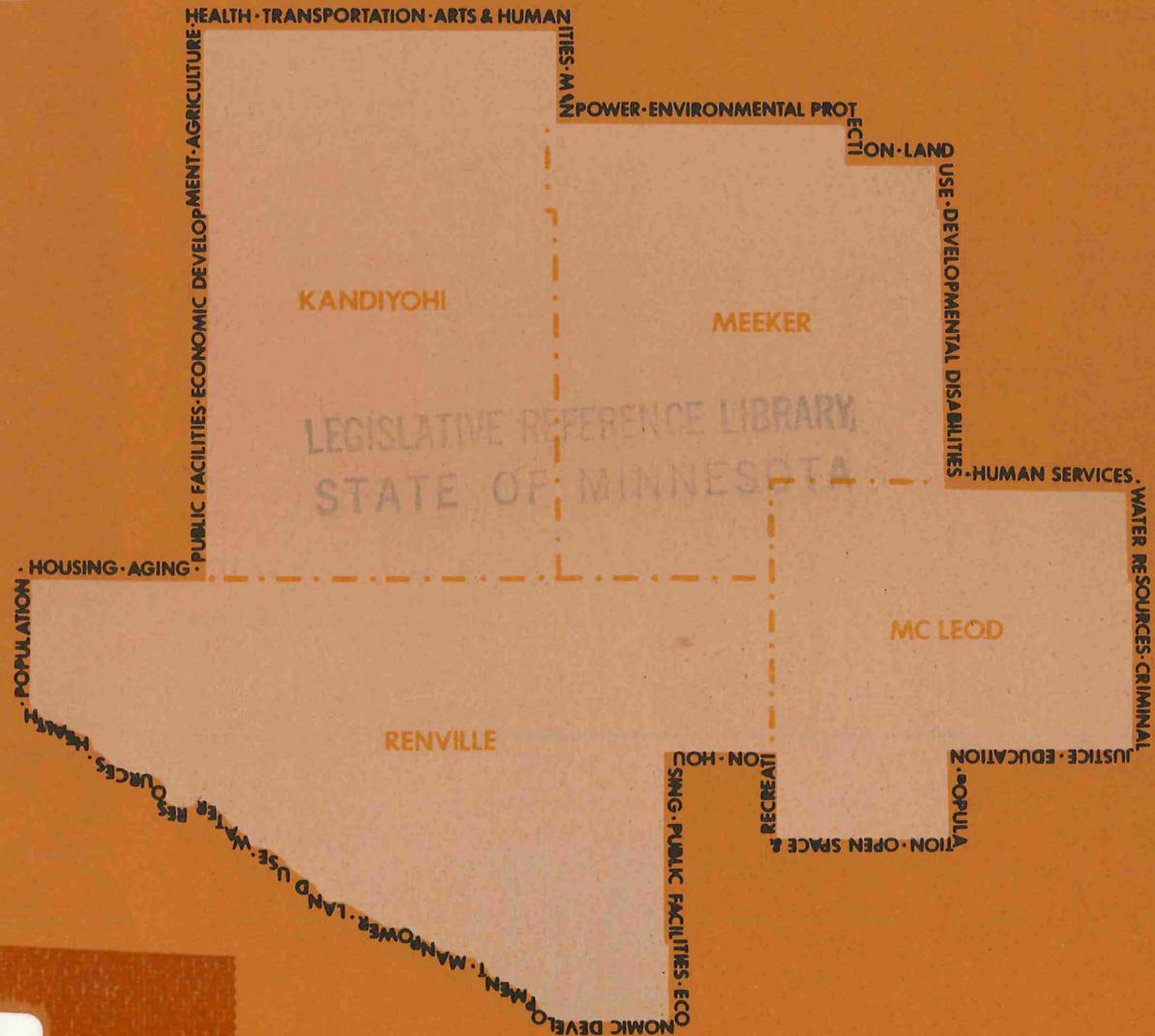


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# SIX EAST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

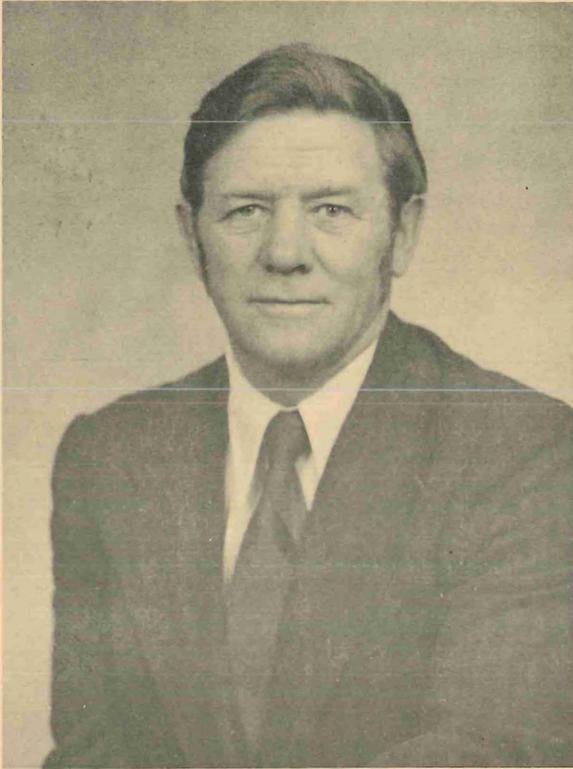


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## Annual Report

JANUARY 1, 1976

DECEMBER 31, 1976



## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

For many people the year 1976 will be remembered as a year low in precipitation. For others it will always be thought of as the bicentennial year. And for numerous reasons it will be remembered because certain things happened and others things did not happen.

As Chairman of the Six East RDC I wish to publicly say thanks to our staff, my fellow commissioners and all the people who have worked so hard to make things happen for the Commission. Together you worked on a "Housing Distribution Plan," a "Manpower Plan" and two public transit feasibility studies. Collectively you discussed problems, needs, goals and alternatives regarding open space/recreation, economic development, libraries, health, land use, water resources and a score of other issues.

Also I want to thank the citizens of our four counties for being tolerant—tolerant while we strive to make our Commission a working tool that better serves meeting all of our needs and desires. A special thanks goes to our local governmental officials for their cooperation and willingness to work together.

Regional development commissions are still relatively new in Minnesota and our Commission is no exception. Using a well worn saying, "most good things are worth waiting for." As you read this year's Annual Report you will notice many things that have been accomplished. Also you will note that we have merely "scratched the surface" in many other areas.

The challenge for all of us—Commission, local units of government and general public—is to work together to make our four counties a better place in which to live and work. Local units of government exist to provide services to their people. The Commission was created not to replace local units of government but to coordinate, conduct research, plan and assist local government when assistance is requested.

The great statesman, Henry Clay, said: "Government is a trust, and the officers of government trustees; and both the trust and the trustees created for the benefit of the people." Our Commission is a small related part of that trust. Let us work together to make it benefit the people.

*Earl Larson*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Commission & Staff .....	1
Committees and Appointments .....	2 - 3
Regional Profile .....	4
Comprehensive Development Plan Activities .....	5 - 12
A-95 Clearinghouse Process .....	13
A-95 Applications Processed .....	14 - 18
Technical Assistance .....	19
1976 Budget Summary .....	20
1977 Program Budget Summary .....	21
Summary of Plans - Reports - Studies .....	22 - 23
Commission Perspective (State/Federal Program/Administration) .....	24

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# Commissioners and Staff

## KANDIYOHI COUNTY

*Dean Aarvig, Township  
Homer Bach, Mayor, Atwater  
Al Christopherson, School Board  
Earl Larson, County Commissioner  
(Commission Chairman)  
Irma Peterson, Councilwoman, Willmar  
(Community over 10,000)*

## MEEKER COUNTY

*Marvin Holmquist, Councilman, Litchfield  
Lyndon Nelson, County Commissioner  
George Rice, County Commissioner  
Deb Thomas, Township*

## MCLEOD COUNTY

*D.J. Black, Mayor, Hutchinson  
Ernie Bullert, County Commissioner  
Ed Duesterhoeft, Township  
Hillard Graupmann, School Board*

## RENVILLE COUNTY

*Ed Downs, Mayor, Morton  
Wesley Kuske, Township  
Odean Skalbeck, County Commissioner*

## PUBLIC INTEREST COMMISSIONERS

*Carolyn Stevens, Minnesota Association of Voluntary Social Service Agencies  
Robert Duea, Minnesota Association of Voluntary Social Service Agencies  
Leonard Pikal, Region 6E Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Ed Schwartz, Region 6E Countryside Council*

## STAFF

H. Eugene Hippe, Exective Director  
Paul Borene, Planner - Housing  
Richard Carlstrom, Planner - Land Resources/Environmental  
Pam Myers, Secretary  
Lorraine Patton, Bookeeper/Secretary  
Cathy Petersen, Planner - Manpower  
Tom Peterson, Draftsman/Researcher  
Sheryl Stranberg, Secretary  
Wayne Thompson, Planner - Economic Development

# Committees and Appointments

## EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

Ernie Bullert - Glencoe  
Ed Downs - Morton  
Earl Larson - Willmar  
Deb Thomas - Litchfield

## BYLAW COMMITTEE

D. J. Black - Hutchinson  
Wes Kuske - Olivia  
Earl Larson - Willmar  
George Rice - Watkins

## BUDGET & WORK PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Earl Larson, Chairman - Willmar  
Ed Downs - Morton  
Ed Duesterhoeft - Hutchinson  
Deb Thomas - Litchfield

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Hillard Graupmann, Chairman - Glencoe  
Homer Bach - Atwater  
Marvin Holmquist - Litchfield  
Wes Kuske - Olivia

## APPOINTMENTS

D. J. Black, Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee  
Ernie Bullert, Alternate - Commission on Minnesota's Future  
Odean Skalbeck, Regional Manpower Advisory Committee  
Ed Downs, Pioneerland, Inc.  
Hillard Graupmann, Alternate - Governor's Rural Development Council  
H. Eugene Hippe, Environmental Education Council  
Wes Kuske, Criminal Justice Planning Council  
Earl Larson, Commission on Minnesota's Future  
Irma Peterson, Governor's Rural Development Council  
Irma Peterson, Health Service Agency, Steering Committee  
Staff, Environmental Quality Council's Power Plant Siting Committee  
Leonard Pikal, Statewide "208" Task Force  
Bernie Knutson, Health Service Agency Six  
Odean Skalbeck, Outdoor Recreation Planning Technical Advisory Committee

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE

Marvin Holmquist, Chairman - Litchfield  
Millie Benneke - Glencoe  
J. Harlold Beytien - Hutchinson  
Harold Cole - New London  
Bill Haggerty - Watkins  
Clint Haroldson - Renville  
Richard Larson - Hutchinson  
LeRoy Scharmer - Buffalo Lake  
Michael Schmit - Willmar  
Donald Walgrave - Franklin  
Norma Wilner - Litchfield

#### MANPOWER COMMITTEE

Earl Kaliher, Chairman - Willmar  
Pat Bonniwell - Dassel  
Frank Fleetham - Hutchinson  
Jerald Goblirsch - Olivia  
William Haggerty - Watkins  
Warren Macemon - Hutchinson  
Earl McLaughlin - Willmar  
Robert Neessen - Willmar  
Scott Nelson - Willmar  
Tom Polansky - Olivia  
Norman Prusinski - Litchfield  
Paul Rieckman - Willmar  
LeRoy Scharmer - Buffalo Lake  
Clarence Schultz - Glencoe  
Thomas Sexton - Litchfield  
Odean Skalbeck - Sacred Heart  
Helen Thayer - Willmar  
Don Werder - Willmar  
Lois Willette - Olivia

#### NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Dean Aarvig, Chairman - Willmar  
Leonard Pikal, Vice-chairman - Brownnton  
Charles Anderson - Litchfield  
Dick Beerling - Willmar  
Melvin Dose - Glencoe  
Ron Erpelding - Willmar  
Leo Grosam - Fairfax  
Orlo Hagevald - Fairfax  
Duane Henkelman - Litchfield  
Aarvid Hooversten - Stewart  
Dale Johnson - Willmar  
Philip Johnson - Pennock  
Del Larson - Grove City  
Jeff Lovig - Olivia  
Don Martens - Hutchinson  
Virgil Olson - Willmar  
Oliver Piepenburg - Litchfield  
Skip Quade - Hutchinson  
Clyde Ruebel - Olivia  
Ernest Schafer - Buffalo Lake  
Dick Schurtz - Olivia  
Richard Tonnell - Watkins  
Hugh Wagner - Watkins  
Chuck Warner - Brownnton

#### TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

D. J. Black, Chairman - Hutchinson  
Dale Hultgren - Dassel  
Jack Lynch - Willmar  
Aarvid Nelson - Buffalo Lake  
Vince Ryan - Glencoe  
Deb Thomas - Litchfield  
Curtis Wood - Olivia

# Regional Profile

## A Brief History of the Commission

On July 25, 1973, the Commission held an organizational meeting in Litchfield. They met again on August 29th at Cosmos to begin drafting Bylaws which were adopted on December 18, 1973.

At its November meeting the Commission appointed two committees—one to develop criteria for selecting an executive director and the other to locate an office for the Commission. The city of Willmar offered three years of free office space and the Commission accepted the offer. The Commission began advertising for a director in February.

In January, the Commission appointed a goals and objectives committee. The committee held its first county-wide meeting at Hutchinson in February 1974. Upon completion of the meetings, the input was categorized into the following general categories, which are listed according to the Committee's priority ranking:

- |                         |                                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Transportation       | 6. Inter-governmental Relations    |
| 2. Housing              | 7. Education                       |
| 3. Public Services      | 8. Communications                  |
| 4. Economic Development | 9. Research & Technical Assistance |
| 5. Environment          | 10. People Building                |

## Statistical Background of the Region

The Six East Development Region lies in an area of conflicting land uses. The eastern edge of the four county area is adjacent to the Twin Cities metropolitan area and therefore is experiencing urbanization pressures. The northern portion of the area has a gently rolling topography and is interspersed with over 400 lakes. In most of the southern part of the region can be found some of the most productive agricultural land in the state. About 85% of the region's land area is used for agricultural purposes. Corn, hay, soybeans, dairy and beef operations are common, but of considerable importance are the raising or growing of turkeys, hogs, garden vegetables and sugar beets.

Approximately 100,000 people live in Region Six East. The urban-rural breakdown is 35,000 and 65,000 respectively. About 12%, or 2,950 of the 35,000 families, have an income considered below the poverty level. This represents around 12,000 people affected with a poverty income situation.

The total number of housing units in the region is around 35,000. Of this figure, 1,682 owner occupied units and 852 renter occupied units lack complete plumbing facilities. These units lacking all or some plumbing facilities house nearly 6,000 people. At the present time, housing of any type and especially safe and sanitary housing is in critical short supply with most of the communities with under 1,500 population having zero vacancy rate.

# Comprehensive Development Plan Activities

Each year the Commission prepares and adopts an annual work program. This work program details the Commission's anticipated areas of involvement for the forthcoming 12 months and also gives an indication of involvement from a financial viewpoint for the following two years. The format of the work program for each category of involvement is to list previous work accomplished, show the objective for the area of operation, state some of the more obvious work elements, describe what the expected results are at the end of the fiscal year and describe what the final product will be after the Commission has completed all work in a given program area. Each program area in the annual work program breaks down the funding sources as to federal, state and local funds, and then shows how the funds will be used. The expenditures show how many dollars are anticipated to be used for staff, direct costs, indirect costs and whether or not any consultant fees will be paid. In addition, the Commission also makes a projection as to how many manhours will be needed in that given 12 months period to accomplish the work outlined.

The Commission has attempted to set up its work program along the lines of requirements in the State Statutes that requires the Commission to "prepare and adopt, after appropriate study and such public hearings as may be necessary, a comprehensive development plan for the region." State Statutes go on to say "The plan shall consist of a compilation of policy statements, goals, standards, programs and maps prescribing guides for an orderly and economic development, public and private, of the region. The comprehensive development plan shall recognize and encompass physical, social or economic needs of the region, and those future developments which will have an impact on the entire region including but not limited to such matters as land use, parks and open space land needs, the necessity for and location of airports, highway, transit facilities, public hospitals, libraries, schools, public and private housing, and other public buildings."

The Commission recognizes that it cannot address all of these issues in depth in any given 12 month period. However, it also recognizes that eventually these areas will be studied and, therefore, in its annual work program it has broken down 18 different elements that would comprise the basis of a comprehensive development plan for the region.

Physical planning is the principal area of emphasis for the Commission during its formative years. Even though social planning is not emphasized, there is a high level of awareness of the need for social planning. The following list of work program categories forms the basis for what will eventually be a comprehensive development plan for the region. Each category will be treated as a separate but integrated component of the plan. The list is broken into two parts: physical and social.

## PHYSICAL PLANNING

Housing  
Public Facilities  
Economic Development  
Land Use  
Transportation  
Open Space/Recreation  
Agricultural  
Water Resources  
Environmental Protection

## SOCIAL PLANNING

Manpower  
Education  
Human Services  
Population  
Aging  
Criminal Justice  
Health  
Developmental Disabilities  
Arts and Humanities



Housing continued to be one of the Commission's major emphasis areas in 1976. During the year, the major responsibility of one of the staff planners has been in the area of housing. The Commission established an 11 member housing committee chaired by one of the Commission members. This committee worked with the housing planner in the development of a Housing Resource Distribution Plan which was subsequently adopted by the Commission. The plan has been implemented through the A-95 Review process on two occasions to provide for the equitable and efficient distribution of government housing subsidies for which local communities had applied.

Commission activities in housing have been focused on collection, organization and analysis of data used in the Housing Distribution Plan and to be used in a future housing plan which will, among other things, project the future need for housing in the region. To accomplish this, a housing stock up-date for 1976 has been tabulated and the housing growth trend for the period 1970 to 1976 has been charted.

Technical assistance to local government on housing related matters has occupied much time as staff worked closely with communities on the development of local housing assistance plans and applications for Community Development Block Grants from HUD. This Kandiyohi County Housing and Redevelopment Authority was assisted in its successful application for section 8 rent subsidies from the Dept. of HUD. Also assistance was given to the 6E Community Action Agency to develop a delivery capability for housing programs.

Throughout the year, the Commission maintained liaison with HUD and the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) on current housing programs. Informational meetings on MHFA programs were sponsored by the Commission and an ongoing effort was made to promote those programs.

## PUBLIC FACILITIES

This was not a major emphasis area during 1976 and, therefore, no detailed studies were initiated. However, the Commission has continued to work with communities demonstrating a need for new, improved or expanded sewer and water facilities. The Commission continued working with the city of Brownton and Raymond in their efforts to obtain financing for overhead water storage facilities. Assistance was given to the city of Pennock to meet federal requirements in utilizing Community Development Act funds for the constructing of a community center. Staff continued to advise the Kandiyohi County Board on sewage treatment funding possibilities with the Environmental Protection Agency as related to the Green Lake Sewer District.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development is another of the Commission's major emphasis area. A staff planner is assigned almost full-time to work on an Overall Economic Development Plan (OEDP), which when completed will qualify local units of government and private enterprise to access federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) programs. An OEDP is a very detailed study for each county listing various economic factors and public facility and economic development needs for each municipality within a given county. The Commission had applied to EDA for planning funds to accelerate its economic development activity. It was notified in July that the region had not been selected as one of the two regions in the state to participate in the EDA planning program.

Statistical information was provided to several individuals and businesses regarding economic development factors. The Southern Minnesota Sugar Beet Co-op was given assistance in analyzing alternative sources for refinancing and obtaining working capital.

## LAND USE

During the early part of the year, an inventory of existing land uses was completed for the entire unincorporated area of the region and many of the smaller communities. This inventory was financed, in part, by the development commission and, in part, by the University of Minnesota which is the recipient of a three-year Title V Rural Development Act grant which is for the purpose of conducting research in the field of land use and transportation. Certain aspects of the inventory were conducted specifically to provide additional information for the university study in the analysis of the storage and transportation of agricultural commodities. Information on junk vehicles was collected, mapped and turned over to the individual counties for their utilization in countywide junk vehicle removal programs. Other information that was collected is being utilized not only in putting together a land use report, but also open space/recreation, housing and economic development reports.

Certain parts of the land use inventory will be integrated into the Minnesota Land Management Information System (MLMIS). This computer data storage along with the computer's capability to produce computer maps is anticipated to be beneficial in the 208 Water Quality Non-point Pollution Source study as well as the region's own water resource program. The Commission has worked closely with other regional development commissions in an attempt to establish a framework for conducting a land use study which will meet federal requirements under terms of HUD 701 funding. These guidelines have now been submitted to HUD for their review and approval and also have been approved by the Minnesota Association of Regional Commissions.



## TRANSPORTATION

Although transportation ranks as one of the leading concerns and problems discussed at citizens input meetings in early 1974, the Commission has not emphasized transportation in its annual work plan. The reason for this lack of emphasis is twofold. First, most of the concerns expressed and problems discussed involved construction of new roads and the Commission realizes that necessary money to accomplish the desires expressed is not available. Second, the university grant under Title V of the Rural Development Act is undertaking a three year transportation study in Region Six East. The Commission believes that it is desirable to wait until the university study is completed prior to becoming heavily involved in transportation research and planning.

During the course of 1976, one public transit feasibility study was completed, another was started and completed, and interest in a third was expressed by the city of Glencoe. The West Central Minnesota Transit Feasibility Study (greater Willmar area) was completed, but to date has not been implemented. The Hutchinson study, which was started and completed during 1976 has been implemented by the city of Hutchinson and at the present time, two mini-buses are in service and have carried a maximum of 145 passengers in one day which is over three times the original projection.

Region Six East also was interested in the State Railroad Rehabilitation Grant Program. The qualifying rail line in this region runs through Morton, Franklin and Fairfax. The Region Nine Development Commission will be working with the shippers on that line as an extension of their own program in Region Nine.



## OPEN SPACE-RECREATION

Most of the basic research for an open space recreation report for the region has been completed. Before the report can be completed, it will be necessary to work closely with each of the 40 municipalities and the four counties to have those local units of government assess their needs and desires and determine what strategy they will propose to meet those needs and desires. The compilation of these local plans then becomes the real back-

bone of the regional report or plan.

Sixteen local units of government prepared preliminary applications for LAWCON and LCMR state funds for open space and recreation projects. The Commission offers technical assistance in grant application preparation upon request. This year, 12 units of government were assisted in the preparation of grant applications for park and recreation projects.



Agriculture is the most important aspect of the economy in Region Six East. A considerable amount of research is taking place in this area, but at the present time is being credited to the area of economic development. The Overall Economic Development Plan will have a detailed section on past agricultural production for both crops and livestock. The University of Minnesota's Title V research project on land use and transportation also keys in on agricultural needs and after that study is completed the Commission will be in a better position to analyze some of the more detailed and complex agricultural relationships in the four counties.

Also, the Commission has discussed the benefits of having detailed soils maps of the region and has been advised about the county accelerated soil mapping program. To date, no accelerated soil mapping programs have been initiated in any of the four counties. The Commission is using a very generalized soils map in some of its reports and studies for purposes of showing land and soil capability for both agricultural and non agricultural uses.



Considerable emphasis has been placed on water resources in the region. This encompasses both surface and underground water and addresses quality and quantity of water. One of the objectives of the Commission for 1976 was to prepare a water resources work program proposal that could be funded either by a single funding agency or be multi-funded and which would in part generate base line information. This has been accomplished. The development of the proposal included coordination or contact with the following agencies or organizations: Legislative Commission on Minnesota's Resources, Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Environmental Science Foundation, Inc., Fresh Water Biology Institute, State Soil Conservation Service, Pollution Control Agency, Federal Soil Conservation Service, State Planning Agency (Environmental Section), Minnesota Land Management Information System (MLMIS), State Geological Survey, United States Geological Survey, University of Minnesota Department of Applied Agricultural Economics, Minnesota Water Resources Council and the University of Minnesota Limnology Research Center.

Basically, the proposal would be a demonstration project in the four counties of Region Six East for research and monitoring of water quality and quantity, both surface and subsurface. Copies of the proposal have been shared with many of the previously listed agencies and organizations.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Although this was not an area of emphasis, staff involvement far exceeded the time that was anticipated in working with local units of government. Two small communities: the city of Renville and the city of Spicer, requested assistance in preparing zoning and subdivision regulations, zoning maps and a future comprehensive land use map. The development of the zoning and subdivision regulations necessitated incorporating into them the Department of Natural Resource (DNR) provisions for flood plan management and shoreland management. The specifics of these two DNR provisions have been worked out and coordinated with DNR personnel. Both communities are now in the final phases of preparing for public hearing on the proposals. Both communities were encouraged to work closely with adjacent townships and a healthy working relationship seems to be developing between the communities and the adjacent townships. Not only did the Commission prepare maps to accommodate the communities, but also new base maps were drafted for the adjacent townships.

Base maps were drafted for townships for the four townships immediately surrounding the city of Hutchinson. Aerial photographs were reproduced at the same scale and also the generalized soils map for McLeod for these four counties was blown up to the same scale. This information has been turned over to the county of McLeod for use by the planning commission, zoning administrator and those four townships in addressing growth and development issues in the area immediately adjacent to the city of Hutchinson.

## MANPOWER

During 1976, the Commission contracted with the Governor's Manpower Office to accomplish support planning for manpower activities. Basically the work relates to state and federal funded manpower programs. One of the Commission's committees, the Regional Manpower Advisory Committee, is responsible for recommending how the state and federal manpower funds will be utilized within the region and in some cases designating the program operator. Also, they are involved in evaluating the results of the manpower programs within the region.

The Commission has assigned a staff person to work with the committee in carrying out its responsibilities. The committee has prepared and recommended for adoption a manpower plan for Fiscal Year 1977, which is from July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1977. The Regional Development Commission held a public hearing on this proposal and has adopted it for the current fiscal year.



## EDUCATION



The only work activity proposed for education is to continue to inventory education opportunities available in the region and to relate this information as appropriate to the Commission's areas of emphasis. The Commission does attempt to keep the 26 school districts informed as to state and federal programs which may be advantageous to the district and which the district typically would not be kept informed about.



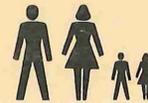
## HUMAN SERVICES



The only activity projected by the Commission for human services was to continue to become better acquainted with the deliverers of services in the human service area by assimilating as much information on agencies and programs as possible. This activity is in anticipation of becoming more involved in this area at a later date.



## POPULATION



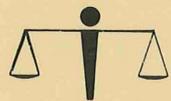
Detailed information concerning census information and projections has been gathered for the region. Building permit information since 1972 has been collected in most of the four counties. Remaining to be collected is building permit information since the 1970 census until 1972. At that point, all that will remain is to put together the final document on population trends in the region and the report will be complete. Analysis of population trends, estimates and projections for the region and counties have been completed in draft form. The draft information has been requested by the provided to: churches, electric co-ops, Federal Bureau of Investigation, a chamber of commerce, planning consultants, schools and numerous government agencies.



## AGING



The Commission has agreed to cooperate with Regions 6W and 8 to begin the process necessary to eventually qualify the three-region area for an area agency on aging. Such an agency will ultimately qualify the area to take advantage of the full spectrum of programs to serve the elderly citizens.



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE



Criminal justice planning is currently being accomplished through the Region E Criminal Justice Planning Council. This Council covers the three-region area of 6E, 6W and 8. A Memorandum of Agreement is in effect with the Region E Council. The Region 8 Regional Development Commission has assumed the financial responsibilities of being the recipient of the funds for the Region E Criminal Justice Planning Council. One member of the Region 6E Development Commission has been appointed to serve on the Region E Criminal Justice Planning Council.



# HEALTH



Health planning for Region Six East is the responsibility of Health Service Agency Six. The Region Six East Development Commission participated in a steering committee that coordinated the integration of two existing health planning councils into Health Service Agency Six per the new federal guidelines for health service agencies. The Commission also has appointed a representative to serve on the Health Service Agency Six Council.



# DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



On behalf of Regional Development Commissions 8 and 6W, Region Six East has agreed to be the primary host agency for the Southwest Minnesota Developmental Disabilities Council. Memorandums of Agreement have been put into effect between the Developmental Disabilities Council and all three of the regional development commissions and Region Six East's responsibility is to be the financial officer, thus being the recipient of funds. Also the Commission has the responsibility for program management to assure that the Southwest Minnesota Developmental Disabilities Council meets the terms of the contract for funds.



# ARTS & HUMANITIES



The Commission has agreed to have the Southwestern Minnesota Arts and Humanities Council (SMAHC) be its representative to meet the State Arts Board requirement that each region have an arts council. SMAHC has been in operation for several years. It operates not only by utilizing state funds, but also private foundation money and money from local membership on the council. Therefore, rather than forming a new arts council, the Commission agreed to let SMAHC be the recipient of funds from the state that normally would be allocated to the four county region.

# A-95 CLEARINGHOUSE PROCESS

On June 4, 1975, Governor Wendell Anderson designated the Six East Regional Development Commission as the official A-95 Clearinghouse Review Agency for the region. The Commission has adopted, published and distributed an "A-95 Clearinghouse Review Procedural Manual".

Section 462-391, Subdivision 3 of the Regional Development Act states in part, "The Commission shall review all applications of governmental units, independent commissions, boards or agencies operating in the region for a loan or grant from the United States of America or any agency, including state agencies and colleges or universities, for public facilities, studies, or any other purposes if the application clearly is related to the region, whether or not such review is required by the federal government".

After the RDC is notified regarding an application, it notifies all local units of government, public agencies and semi-public agencies which may be concerned with or effected by the proposal. Also, the RDC notifies the State Clearinghouse which notifies all applicable state agencies. The RDC does not have the authority to approve or disapprove applications. It acts as a coordinating agency for purposes of review and comment.

Ideally, the Commission should base its review and comment on that element of an adopted comprehensive development plan that relates to the application. Development and adoption of the many elements of the comprehensive development plan will not be completed for several more years and, therefore, as appropriate, the Commission uses the goals and objectives in its Overall Program Design as a measure of consistency.

During 1976, the Commission initiated a policy that it would review and process all applications but would only comment on those which have regional significance.

The following list of funding agencies and their acronyms are used in the list of 106 applications processed by The Commission during Calendar Year 1976:

DOL	Department of Labor
HUD	Housing and Urban Development
EPA/PCA	Environmental Protection Agency/Pollution Control Agency
BOR/LCMR	Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (LAWCON) / Legislative Committee on Minnesota's Resources
FmHA	Farmer Home Administration
HEW	Health, Education & Welfare
EDA	Economic Development Administration
DOT	Department of Transportation
GRDC	Governor's Rural Development Council
LEAA	Law Enforcement Assistance Act (Department of Justice)
MHFA	Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
MDH	Minnesota Department of Health
SPA	State Planning Agency

A-95 APPLICATIONS PROCESSED

APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	RDC ACTION	LOAN OR GRANT	FUNDING AGENCY	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Plato Woodwork, Inc.	Manufacturing Facilities	Positive	Loan	FmHA	200,000	200,000
Minnesota Association for Retarded Citizens	Senior Companion Program	Positive	Grant	HEW	148,503	118,662
City of Renville	C.D.B.G.--Preapplication	Positive	Grant	HUD	98,000	98,000
City of Olivia	C.D.B.G.--Preapplication	Positive	Grant	HUD		
City of Fairfax	C.D.B.G.--Preapplication	Positive	Grant	HUD	171,800	171,800
John Viske	FHA Mortgage for Horizon Hills Estates Subdivision	Positive	Loan	HUD	N/A	N/A
City of Raymond	C.D.B.G.--Preapplication	Positive	Grant	HUD	445,000	445,000
City of Sunburg	C.D.B.G.--Preapplication	Positive	Grant	HUD	300,150	300,150
City of Watkins	C.D.B.G.--Preapplication	Positive	Grant	HUD	277,000	277,000
City of Stewart	C.D.B.G.--Preapplication	Positive	Grant	HUD	123,000	123,000
Minnesota Highway Department	5-Year Federal Aid to Urban Program for Hutchinson and Litchfield	Positive	Grant	DOT	1,157,000	1,157,000
6E Community Action Agency	Headstart Program	Positive	Grant	HEW	173,436	173,436
Villager Apartments	Rural Rental Housing in Kandiyohi	Positive	Loan	FmHA	130,200	124,000
Hutchinson Industrial Corp.	Business and Industrial Loan Program	Positive	Loan	FmHA	-	500,000
West Central Community Services	Consultation and Education Services--Mental Health	Positive	Grant	HEW	100,000	100,000
Minnesota Dept. of Aeronautics	Willmar Airport Acquisition	No Comm.	Grant	DOT	1,408,000	1,277,000
Governor's Manpower Office	CETA Title I Modification for Balance of State	Positive	Grant	DOL	-	1,797,016
Soil Conservation Service	Kandiyohi County Roadside Erosion Control	Positive	Grant	BOR/LCMR	52,000	47,000
Leroy Goelz	Rural Rental Housing in Bird Island	Positive	Loan	FmHA	120,000	120,000
Southwest Minnesota Health Planning Council	Emergency Medical Service Planning	Positive	Grant	HEW	-	45,000
Dassel Lakeside Community Home	Transportation Service for Elderly	Positive	Grant	DOT	14,500	11,600
Minnesota Dept. of Highways	Planning, Research and Development Work Program for FY 1976	No Comm.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	RDC ACTION	LOAN OR GRANT	FUNDING AGENCY	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Governor's Manpower Office	CETA, Balance of State Title I and Title II	Positive	Grant	DOL	-	-
Countryside Council	Technical Assistance Program	Positive	Grant	EDA	86,833	59,732
Minnesota Health Systems Agency (HSA) 6	HSA Designation	Positive	Grant	HEW	175,000	175,000
Migrant Health Service, Inc.	Migrant Mobile Health	Positive	Grant	MDH	173,000	150,000
MN Assn. for Retarded Citizens	Foster Grandparent Program	Positive	Grant	HEW	191,484	339,864
Augustana Lutheran Homes	Transportation Services for Elderly and Handicapped	Positive	Grant	DOT	13,750	11,000
City of Hutchinson	C.D.B.G.--Final Application	Positive	Grant	HUD	338,000	338,000
Governor's Manpower Office	CETA Summer Youth Program for Balance of State	Positive	Grant	DOL	2,132,900	2,132,900
State Planning Agency	302 Economic Development Planning	Positive	Grant	EDA	330,000	235,000
West Central Community Services	Community Mental Health Center Conversion	Positive	Grant	HEW	200,000	200,000
City of Dassel	Nursing Home Addition	Positive	Loan	FmHA	385,000	385,000
Governor's Manpower Office	CETA Balance of State Modification, Title VI	Positive	Grant	DOL	9,736,553	9,736,553
Governor's Manpower Office	CETA Balance of State Modification, Title II	Positive	Grant	DOL	5,171,726	5,171,726
New London Housing	Rural Rental Housing	Positive	Loan	FmHA	200,000	200,000
Region E Advisory Council	FY 76 Planning Grant	Positive	Grant	LEAA	10,000	10,000
Leroy Goelz	Rural Rental Housing in Danube	Positive	Loan	FmHA	134,700	128,000
6E Community Action Agency	Nutrition for the Elderly	Positive	Grant	HEW	156,250	156,250
6E RDC	Developmental Disabilities Planning	Positive	Grant	SPA	7,265	6,335
Henry Wiedenroth	Rural Rental Housing in Lester Prairie	Positive	Loan	FmHA	136,000	129,200
Edgar Dehncke	Rural Rental Housing in Stewart	Positive	Loan	FmHA	135,200	128,500
City of Willmar	Park and Recreation Development of Ramblewood Slough	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	100,000	50,000
6E Community Action Agency	Home Improvement Assistance for Rural Areas	Positive	Grant	GRDC	27,868	22,290

APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	RDC ACTION	LOAN OR GRANT	FUNDING AGENCY	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT REQUESTED
City of Atwater	Industrial Site Development	Local S.	Grant	FmHA	250,000	250,000
City of Glencoe	Park Development	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	35,500	35,500
Meeker County	Bridge Construction	Local S.	Grant	DOT	66,150	46,300
Region E Advisory Council	Planning Grant for FY '77	Positive	Grant	LEAA	77,174	77,174
Region E Advisory Council	Shelter Care Project	Positive	Grant	LEAA	250,000	225,000
Latham Farms, Spicer	Olson Subdivision in Spicer	Local S.	Loan	HUD	-	-
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Sibley Park Land Acquisition	Positive	Grant	BOR/LCMR	42,100	21,050
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Sibley Park Land Acquisition	Positive	Grant	BOR/LCMR	189,100	94,550
Kandiyohi County	Improvements to County Park #2	Positive	Grant	BOR/LCMR	56,000	42,000
Kandiyohi County	Improvements to County Park #5	Positive	Grant	BOR/LCMR	91,500	68,000
Meeker County	Koronis-Crow River Park	Positive	Grant	BOR/LCMR	216,000	216,000
McLeod County	Lake Marion Park Improvement	Positive	Grant	BOR/LCMR	91,600	68,700
City of Hutchinson	East River Park Acquisition and Improvements	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	103,938	77,954
City of Litchfield	Nature Center and Legion Memorial	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	66,000	49,500
City of Silver Lake	Park and Playground Project	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	100,000	75,000
City of Olivia	West-Del Park Development	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	156,000	117,000
City of Winsted	North Shore Park Acquisition	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	27,800	20,850
City of Winsted	Lake Front Beach Improvements	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	80,000	60,000
City of Watkins	Civic Park Improvements	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	32,202	24,152
City of Watkins	Sportsmens' Park Acquisition and Dev.	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	25,425	21,568
City of Grove City	City Park Improvements	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	42,642	31,982
West Central Community Services	Staffing Grant-Continuation	Positive	Grant	HEW	434,053	434,053
West Central Community Services	Staffing Grant-Growth	Positive	Grant	HEW	133,572	133,572

APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	RDC ACTION	LOAN OR GRANT	FUNDING AGENCY	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Glencoe HRA	MHFA Home Improvement Grants	Negative	Grant	MHFA	20,000	20,000
City of Hutchinson	MHFA Home Improvement Grants	Negative	Grant	MHFA	100,000	100,000
6E Community Action Agency	MHFA Home Improvement Grants	Positive	Grant	MHFA	306,000	306,000
City of Eden Valley	MHFA Home Improvement Grants	Negative	Grant	-	20,000	20,000
City of Willmar	C.D.B.G. Revisions	Local S.	Grant	HUD	-	-
Region E Advisory Council	Multi-Channel Recorder Project	Positive	Grant	LEAA	51,946	49,248
6E Community Action Agency	Retired Senior Volunteer Program	Positive	Grant	HEW	19,207	12,762
Developmental Disabilities Council	Annual Planning Grant	Positive	Grant	HEW	36,193	25,000
MN Dept. of Natural Resources	Fort Ridgely & Sibley Park Acquisition and Development	Positive	Grant	BOR/LCMR	1,783,000	1,783,000
Bethesda Homes of Willmar	New Construction and Remodeling	Local S.	Loan	FmHA	2,800,000	2,800,000
MN Assn. for Retarded Citizens	Foster Grandparent Program	Positive	Grant	HEW	748,105	731,603
6E Community Action Agency	Retired Senior Volunteer Program	Positive	Grant	HEW	1,723	1,723
Little Crow Country Club	Golf Course Improvements	Local S.	Loan	FmHA	45,000	45,000
Minnesota Dept. of Highways	FY '77 Work Program	Local S.	-	-	-	-
Minnesota Dept. of Highways	FY '77 Bridge Replacement and Improvement Program	Local S.	Grant	MN Dept. of Hwys.	403,000	-
Westrom and Lundquist	Rural Rental Housing in Willmar	Local S.	Loan	FmHA	1,008,000	957,600
Donald Wagoner	Rural Rental Housing in Litchfield	Local S.	Loan	FmHA	136,800	130,000
Minnesota Dept. of Highways and Meeker County	Bridge Replacement	Local S.	Grant	MN Dept. of Hwys.	126,000	-
Meeker County	Land Use Planning Grant	Local S.	Grant	SPA	12,000	9,000
Minnesota Dept. of Highways	County Federal Aid Projects for FY '77	Local S.	Grant	DOT	402,000	-
Meeker County	Bridge Replacement	Local S.	Grant	MN Dept. of Hwys.	-	438,496
Minnesota Dept. of Highways	Trunk Hwy. Const. Program FY '77	Positive	-	MN Dept. of Hwys.	-	-
City of Hutchinson	Land Use Planning Grant	Local S.	Grant	SPA	29,500	22,000

APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	RDC ACTION	LOAN OR GRANT	FUNDING AGENCY	TOTAL COST	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Fairfax, Glencoe, Hutchinson and Litchfield	MHFA Housing with HUD Section 8 Rent Subsidies	Positive	Grant/ Loan	MHFA	-	-
Minnesota Dept. of Transportation	Safety Improvement Const. Program	Positive	-	DOT	-	-
City of Eden Valley	Public Works	Local S.	Grant	EDA	417,609	417,609
SW MN Arts & Humanities Council	Art in Rural Minnesota	Positive	Grant	GRDC	33,000	7,000
Stewart Development Group	Rural Rental Housing	Local S.	Loan	FmHA	125,000	125,000
Renville County	Bridge Replacement	Local S.	Grant	DOT	110,500	85,000
City of Willmar	C.D.B.G.--Discretionary	Local S.	Grant	HUD	285,120	285,120
6E Community Action Agency	C.S.A. Winterization Grants	Positive	Grant	CSA	24,875	19,900
Renville County	Roadside Erosion and Sediment Control	Local S.	Grant	BOR/LCMR	708,600	88,575
Southwest State University	Manpower Study	Pending	Grant	GRDC	-	19,648
Grove City	C.D.B.G.	Local S.	Grant	HUD	550,000	500,000
Grove City	Water System Improvements	Local S.	Grant	FmHA	550,000	550,000
Governor's Manpower Office	CETA Balance of State, Title I Modification	Pending	Grant	DOL	624,317	624,317
McLeod County	Land Use Planning Grant	Local S.	Grant	SPA	40,000	10,000
City of Glencoe	C.D.B.G.	Local S.	Grant	HUD	161,000	161,000
City of Danube	C.D.B.G.	Local S.	Grant	HUD	151,200	151,200
City of Fairfax	C.D.B.G.	Local S.	Grant	HUD	127,000	127,000
City of Hutchinson	C.D.B.G.	Local S.	Grant	HUD	300,000	300,000

Note: In the column, "RDC Action", No Comment means the Commission submitted neither positive nor negative comments on the proposal. Local S. means the Commission determined the proposal to be locally significant and not regionally significant.

# Technicle Assistance

According to language in the Regional Development Act, the Commission may offer technical assistance to local units of government. It is the purpose of the Commission to increase the planning and programming capability of local units of government by working with them to help assess their needs, determine their problems and develop local strategies to meet those needs and overcome or avoid the problems. The existence of the Commission has no effect on the authority or responsibility of local units of government to do their own planning and programming to meet the needs and desires of their citizens.

Requests for technical assistance are initiated by local units of government and public/semi-public agencies. The Commission provides assistance on a time available basis. Examples of requests for technical assistance follow:

- Help develop zoning ordinance
- Help develop zoning map
- Help develop subdivision regulations
- Help develop future land use map
- Assist with Community Development Act preliminary and final applications
- Assist with Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (LAWCON) preliminary and final applications
- Assist with Legislative Committee on Minnesota Resources preliminary and final applications
- Assist with housing program applications
- Assist with sewage facility program applications
- Assist with water system applications
- Assist with applications oriented to human services
- Advice on applicable state/federal grant and loan programs

# 1976 Budget Summary

## REVENUES

		Year Ending <u>12-31-76</u>
FEDERAL		\$ 67,474.62
HUD "701"	\$14,455.00	
Transit/UMTA	11,200.00	
GMO/DOL	14,067.63	
CETA	13,052.16	
HEW*	14,699.83	
STATE APPROPRIATION		69,500.00
LOCAL		45,667.64
OTHER		2,178.84
Interest	1,205.52	
Refunds	970.62	
Other	2.70	
TOTAL		<u>\$184,821.10</u>

## EXPENDITURES

PERSONAL SERVICE AND BURDEN		\$112,194.02
SUPPLIES		5,063.16
OTHER SERVICES: Communications, Printing, Etc.		9,650.62
OTHER CHARGES: Computer, Professional, Etc.		9,304.15
CAPITAL OUTLAY		6,160.11
OTHER DISBURSEMENTS		112.42
TRAVEL		7,360.97
COMMISSION TRAVEL & PER DIEM		7,577.61
TOTAL		<u>\$157,423.06</u>

\*Pass Through Fund

1977 PROGRAM BUDGET SUMMARY

1977 Program Budget Study

	SOURCE OF FUNDING				Total
	Federal HUD 701	State	Local	Other	
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ -0-	\$32,152	\$ 1,495	\$ 8,134	\$ 41,781
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS	-0-	7,136	2,099	-0-	9,235
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	-0-	5,397	7,607	-0-	13,004
PHYSICAL PLANNING					
Housing	10,041	4,169	282	-0-	14,492
Public Facilities	-0-	4,429	50	-0-	4,479
Economic Development	-0-	-0-	16,904	796	17,700
Land Use	4,850	7,088	1,861	498	14,297
Transportation	-0-	-0-	20	1,541	1,561
Open Space/Recreation	-0-	5,506	60	-0-	5,566
Agricultural	-0-	-0-	286	-0-	286
Water Resources	-0-	3,202	2,599	2,000	7,801
Environmental Protection	-0-	-0-	634	-0-	634
SOCIAL PLANNING					
Manpower	-0-	-0-	223	20,235	20,458
Education	-0-	-0-	268	-0-	268
Human Services	-0-	-0-	527	-0-	527
Population	-0-	-0-	1,039	-0-	1,039
Aging	-0-	-0-	527	-0-	527
Criminal Justice	-0-	-0-	357	-0-	357
Health	-0-	-0-	442	-0-	442
Developmental Disabilities*	-0-	421	21	26,200*	26,642
Arts and Humanities	-0-	-0-	227	-0-	227
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,891</b>	<b>\$69,500</b>	<b>\$37,528</b>	<b>\$59,404</b>	<b>\$181,323</b>

\*Pass Through Fund

# **Summary of Studies-Reports-Plans 1977 Manpower Plan**

During 1974, the Governor's Manpower Office (GMO) was formed to carry out the purposes of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. GMO delegated the responsibility for allocating manpower resources to regions. In 1976, the RDCs were encouraged to: a) adopt a manpower plan which would determine local objectives for manpower services, b) provide a vehicle for leadership in coordinating and improving all manpower and manpower related services in the region, and c) fairly allocate available manpower resources.

The Region Six East 1977 Manpower Plan is a result of planning and thoughts of many individuals who actively participated in designing it to meet the employment needs of the region. The plan includes a statement of the allocation of the manpower resources to three programs of regional scope: the Comprehensive Employment and Training Center, a Youth-In-School Program and an Older Workers Program. Also the plan identified population groups in need of employment services and determined long-term goals.

## **Housing Resource Distribution Plan**

In 1976, the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) initiated a policy of allocating government housing resources to regions. This approach to distribution of housing resources varied considerably from the previous practice of statewide competition for limited amounts of resources. RDCs were subsequently encouraged to adopt a plan by which they would exercise their new responsibility of advising funding agencies on the intra-regional distribution of housing resources such as MHFA Home Improvement Grants and HUD Section 8 Rent Subsidies.

The Housing Resource Distribution Plan was developed to provide for the equitable and efficient distribution of housing resources on the basis of need. It prescribes the process and establishes the criteria by which those distribution decisions will be made. The plan was designed to provide for consistently fair distribution decisions which will result in a distribution pattern of housing resources which reflects the Commission's policies on housing and other regional issues.

# West Central Transit Feasibility Study

In 1976, the West Central Transit Feasibility Study was completed and submitted to both the Kandiyohi County Board of Commissioners and the City Council of Willmar. The purpose of the study was to determine whether or not there exists a need for public transportation within the county. The study entailed analysis of demographic data and surveys of employers, employees, students and the general public. The surveys were used to determine individual levels of interest and their likelihood of using a bus. The study centered around goals and objectives that were formulated by the West Central Transit Study Committee. Although neither the city nor county implemented a public transportation program, they now qualify for state demonstration grants. There has been a renewed interest by the city of Willmar to consider implementation of a transit demonstration program.

## Hutchinson Transit Feasibility Study

In 1976, the Hutchinson Transit Feasibility Study was started and completed. The study was similar to the West Central Transit Study, but concentrated only on the public transportation needs of Hutchinson residents. A member of the RDC staff was assigned to work with the Hutchinson Transit Committee. The committee developed goals and objectives which guide the study and the recommended public transit program. The study entailed analysis of demographic data and surveys of employers, employees, students and the general public. A part of the recommended transit program is now in service. Dial-a-Ride service is now provided in Hutchinson, with 75 percent of the capital outlay and operating expense coming from a state demonstration grant.

## Overall Program Design

Each year, the Commission prepares and adopts an Overall Program Design (OPD) which sets forth the Commission's work program in detail for the next 12 months and in more general terms for a two and three year period. The OPD outlines goals, objectives, proposed work activities and expected results.

Also, it includes projected staffing and budget needs to accomplish the annual work program. The current FY 1977 OPD projects the following utilization of staff time: General Administration 27.7%, Intergovernmental Relations 6%, Technical Assistance 8.5%, Physical Planning 43.7% and 14.1% Social Planning. This allocation of time demonstrates the current emphasis in the area of physical planning.

# COMMISSION PERSPECTIVE

## State/Federal Programs/Adminstration

Each year the Commission is to list in it's annual report—according to State Statute 462.393—recommendations regarding federal and state programs, cooperation, funding and legislative needs. Following is a list of relevant issues the Commission addressed during the year.

- Support for Governor's Manpower Office proposal to decentralize manpower planning responsibility.
- Regarding proposed amendments to the Regional Development Act, the Commission went on record opposing the "Kaley Bill" but not opposing the "Kvam Bill". Any cost incurred because of the "Kvam Bill" should be borne by the Legislature.
- Passed a resolution opposing the Highway Improvement Program—Post 1980.
- On record opposing proposed requirements by the Office of Public Libraries and Interlibrary Cooperation for establishing minimum population of regional library systems and subsequent funding support.
- Suggested changes to Department of Housing and Urban Development on administration and criteria for funding regarding Community Development Act of 1974.
- Contacted the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in reference to local concern with the Health Service Area enabling legislation.
- Concern expressed to the Minnesota Department of Employment Services regarding unavailability of and access to unemployment statistics at city and townships levels.

**SIX EAST REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**City Auditorium**

**311 West 6th Street**

**Willmar, MN 56201**

**Telephone (612) 235-8504**