

CHAPTER 7 Intergovernmental Cooperation

Intergovernmental Cooperation

The intergovernmental cooperation chapter identifies opportunities for establishing or maintaining cooperation between local units of government. Cooperation improves lines of communication between different units of government, and aids in the recognition and possible resolution of, conflicts between jurisdictions, and allows for the identification of mutual service needs and improvements. The intent of this chapter is to identify, inventory and analyze existing and potential cooperative relationships.

Section 7.1 Inventory of Intergovernmental Agreements

Inventory and examination of existing municipal relations allows for the understanding of how units of local government currently work together and how these relationships can be enhanced. As Franklin Grove develops and redevelops in the future it is important for the Village to continue to work with surrounding units of local government. The Village of Franklin Grove has several standing formalized and non-formalized agreements with other units of local government, and one proposed intergovernmental agreement.

- A. Franklin Grove Township: The Village of Franklin Grove and the Township of Franklin Grove maintain an intergovernmental agreement for the purpose of sharing street and road maintenance equipment.
- B. Franklin Grove Public Library: The Village of Franklin Grove provides administrative support services to the Franklin Grove Public Library at cost through an intergovernmental agreement. This intergovernmental agreement also affirms the use of the Franklin Grove Public Library property as a public well site in accordance with a 1954 lease agreement.
- C. Lee County municipalities, Lee County, Ogle County and the City of Rochelle (Ogle County municipality): The Village of Franklin Grove is a partner in the Lee County Enterprise Zone. This intergovernmental agreement is for the purpose of administering the Lee County Enterprise Zone, setting policies, boundary changes, and the sharing of administrative costs.
- D. Franklin Grove Sanitary District: The Village of Franklin Grove maintains a “working arrangement” but no written intergovernmental agreement with the Franklin Grove Sanitary District. The Sanitary District levies a nominal tax for the purpose of maintenance, repair and replacement of components of the waste water treatment plant, and the Sanitary District makes funds available to the Village upon request of the Village Board.
- E. Village of Ashton: An intergovernmental agreement has been proposed between the Village of Franklin Grove and the Village of Ashton for the purpose of providing a water supply in the event of an emergency or disaster that would leave one Village with no potable water supply. This proposed intergovernmental agreement is in the initial stages of consideration and negotiations.

Section 7.2 Issues/Conclusions Regarding Intergovernmental Relations

The Village of Franklin Grove should continue its intergovernmental agreement with Franklin Grove Township in order to efficiently and effectively provide road maintenance services to the Village.

The Village should continue its intergovernmental agreement with the Franklin Grove Public Library so long as it effectively and efficiently serves the Village residents.

The Village should continue to actively participate in the Lee County Enterprise Zone partnership ensure that the Enterprise Zone benefits the residents of the Village.

The Village should formalize its “working agreement” with the Franklin Grove Sanitary District.

The Village should continue negotiations with the Village of Ashton and finalize an intergovernmental agreement that ensures an emergency water supply to its residents in the event of a disaster that would render the Village water supply inoperable or undrinkable.

The Village should maintain communications with Lee County to ensure that County and Village plans and land use decisions are consistent.

Section 7.3 Goals/Objectives/Policies

A. Goals

1. Encourage cooperation between Village of Franklin Grove and other units of government, where appropriate, to ensure availability of services and facilities.
2. Encourage Lee County to adopt plans and land use regulations that are consistent with Village plans for future development.
3. All intergovernmental agreements shall be entered into with the best interests of the residents of the Village of Franklin Grove getting foremost consideration.

B. Objectives

1. Share services across county or municipal borders whenever deemed appropriate by the Village.
2. Seek to negotiate annexation boundary agreements with neighboring municipalities in order to avoid future conflicts.
3. Periodically review intergovernmental agreements to re-affirm that they are still in the best interests of the residents of Franklin Grove.

C. Policies

1. Establish and maintain communication with Lee County, surrounding townships and other units of local government for discussion on land use and other related issues.
2. Maintain existing intergovernmental relations and cooperation.
3. Explore additional opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation and beneficial agreements.