

AGENDA
of the
Executive Committee
of the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission

Monday, August 10, 2026

Zoom Webinar

5:15 pm

Participant Information

How to Attend: This meeting will take place via Zoom Webinar. You may participate in the meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone at this URL:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83989722178?pwd=RjJQc6tY4f6aW279SN3rt3TkXi21af.1>

Phone: 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 839 8972 2178

Passcode: 282772

If you need other accommodation to attend the meeting, please call Matt Kozlowski at 608-474-6017 or email at MatthewKoz@CapitalAreaRPC.org.

Speaking at RPC Meetings: Oral comments from members of the public may be heard for individual agenda items when called upon by the Chair. The time limit for comments by each attendee will be three (3) minutes unless additional time is granted at the discretion of the Chair. The Committee may alter the order of the agenda items at the meeting.

Written Communications: Written communications intended to be provided to the Committee as part of the packet should be sent to info@capitalarearpc.org and will be provided to Commissioners at or before the meeting if received at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Quorum may be Present: CARPC Commissioners who are not members of the Executive Committee may attend Executive Committee meetings, which may constitute a quorum of the Commission.

MISSION: Strengthen the region by engaging communities through planning, collaboration, and assistance.

VISION: A region where communities create an exceptional quality of life for all by working together to solve regional challenges.

Agenda

1. Establish Quorum
2. Public Comment on Matters Not on the Agenda
3. **Minutes of the July 6, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting (*actionable item*)**
4. **Acknowledgement of Receipt – June 2026 Financial Management Report (*actionable item*)**
5. Draft 2025 CARPC Annual Report – Staff Presentation and Discussion
6. Future Agenda Items (next meeting is **Tuesday, September 8, 2026, via Zoom, at 5:15 pm**)
 - a. Recommendation on 2027 CARPC Budget (September)
 - b. Recommendations on Resolutions for MadREP/USDA funds (September)
7. Adjournment

NOTE: If you need an interpreter, translator, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access this service, activity, or program, please call the phone number below at least three business days prior to the meeting.

NOTA: Si necesita un intérprete, un traductor, materiales en formatos alternativos u otros arreglos para acceder a este servicio, actividad o programa, comuníquese al número de teléfono que figura a continuación tres días hábiles como mínimo antes de la reunión.

LUS CIM: Yog hais tias koj xav tau ib tug neeg txhais lus, ib tug neeg txhais ntawv, cov ntawv ua lwm hom ntawv los sis lwm cov kev pab kom siv tau cov kev pab, cov kev ua ub no (activity) los sis qhov kev pab cuam, thov hu rau tus xov tooj hauv qab yam tsawg peb hnub ua hauj lwm ua ntej yuav tuaj sib tham.

CARPC staff 608 474 6017 / TDD 608 474 6017

DRAFT MINUTES
of the
Executive Committee
of the
Capital Area Regional Planning Commission

July 06, 2026

Zoom Webinar

5:15 pm

Commissioners Present: Heidi Murphy, Peter McKeever, Cynthia Richson, David Pfeiffer, Maureen Crombie, and Bill Tishler

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present: Jason Valerius, Matt Kozlowski, Caitlin Shanahan

Others Present:

1. Establish Quorum

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pfeiffer at 5:15 pm. Quorum was established.

2. Public Comment on Matters not on the agenda

None

3. **Minutes of June 8, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting (*actionable item*) (5:15 pm)**

Motion: Commissioner Crombie moved to approve minutes of the June 8, 2026 meeting. Vice Chair Murphy seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Acknowledgement of Receipt – May 2026 Financial Management Report (*actionable item*) (5:16 pm)**

Motion: Commissioner McKeever moved to acknowledge receipt of the May 2026 Financial Management Report. Commissioner Crombie seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. **2027 Cost Allocation Plan (*actionable item*) (5:17 pm)**

Jason Valerius provided an overview of the cost allocation plan.

Motion: Vice Chair Murphy moved to recommend adoption of the 2027 Cost Allocation Plan. Commissioner McKeever seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. Future Agenda Items (next meeting is **Monday, August 10, 2026**, via Zoom at 5:15 pm)

- a. Recommendations on Resolutions for MadREP/USDA (September)

7. Adjournment

Motion: Vice Chair Murphy moved to adjourn. Commissioner Crombie seconded.

The motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Re: Acknowledgement of Receipt – June 2026 Financial Management Report (*actionable item*)**Requested Action:**

Motion to Acknowledge Receipt of June 2026 Financial Management Report

Background:

Continuous process improvement is the goal of the Agency regarding its financial systems, policies and procedures.

Each month the Administrative Services Manager prepares a full financial packet for review by the Executive Director and Commission Treasurer, who each sign off on the packet when they are satisfied that it is an acceptable representation of the Commission's fiscal condition.

The Executive Committee and Commission then receive copies of the Management Report supplied by Berndt CPAs for review at the monthly meetings.

Staff Comments:

Requests for additional financial information or reports may be directed to the ASM.

Attachments:

1. June 2026 Financial Management Report

Staff Contact:

Matt Kozlowski
Administrative Services Manager
MatthewKoz@CapitalAreaRPC.org
(608) 474-6017

Next Steps:

Ongoing discussions about improvements to the CARPC financial systems, policies, and procedures.

Management Report

Capital Area Regional Planning Commission
For the period ended June 30, 2026



Prepared by
Berndt CPA

Prepared on
July 27, 2026

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Notes to the Monthly Financial Statements

To Capital Area Regional Planning Commission,

Provided is some additional context regarding the deferred revenue and related activity for the month of June 2026.

Deferred revenue represents funds that have been invoiced or received in advance for services that have not yet been performed. It also includes contracts or related grants established at the beginning of the year, or early in the year, that relate to work performed throughout the year and are invoiced periodically. These amounts are recognized as revenue over time to more accurately align associated expenses with the related revenue.

For June, \$136,055 was recognized from deferred revenue related to contracts established at the beginning of the year. An additional \$37,643 represents new invoiced revenue generated from current work not associated with deferred revenue contracts.

As of June month-end, the balance in account 3600 – Deferred Revenue is at \$530,815 per knowledge of remaining balances of current contracts for 2026-2028 and received donations and taxes.

Sincerely,
Berndt CPA, LLC

Capital Area Regional Planning Commission
Statement of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2026

	Total	
	As of Jun 30, 2026	As of May 31, 2026 (PP)
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
1000 OPERATING ACCOUNT	73,847	38,505
1001 MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT	20,051	15,071
1002 INVESTMENT ACCOUNT	598,062	696,184
1050 SUMMIT OPERATING ACCOUNT	33,908	33,908
1051 SUMMIT SAVINGS ACCOUNT	1	1
1055 SUMMIT MONEY MARKET	1	1
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 725,870	\$ 783,671
Accounts Receivable		
1105 PROJECT AND GRANTS REC	54,984	119,404
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ 54,984	\$ 119,404
Other Current Assets		
1110 UNBILLED ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	661,073	635,736
1150 PREPAID EXPENSES	0	0
1153 PREPAID HEALTH INSURANCE	23,557	29,869
1156 PREPAID LIFE INSURANCE	65	63
1157 PREPAID PARKING	0	171
1165 PREPAID LICENSES	3,758	4,384
Total 1150 PREPAID EXPENSES	\$ 27,379	\$ 34,486
1170 UNDEPOSITED FUNDS	4,000	600
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 692,452	\$ 670,823
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,473,306	\$ 1,573,898
Fixed Assets		
1200 FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT	7,172	7,172
1201 ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION-FURNITURE/EQUIPMENT	(7,172)	(7,172)
Total 1200 FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT	\$ -	\$ -
1210 RIGHT OF USE ASSET	6,077	6,077
1211 ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION	(3,899)	(3,865)
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 2,177	\$ 2,211
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,475,484	\$ 1,576,109
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
3000 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	1,873	1,161
Total Accounts Payable	\$ 1,873	\$ 1,161
Credit Cards		
3002 PARK BANK CREDIT CARD	0	0
3003 CREDIT CARD	6,588	3,551
Total 3002 PARK BANK CREDIT CARD	\$ 6,588	\$ 3,551
Total Credit Cards	\$ 6,588	\$ 3,551
Other Current Liabilities		
3005 ACCRUED PAYROLL	29,989	21,407

3010 ACCRUED COOP WATER RESOURCE MONITORING	51,150	34,100
3015 ACCRUED PREPAID LIABILITIES	24,800	54,876
3202 WRS PENSION PLAN	12,110	11,777
3300 UNUSED VACATION, WELLNESS	68,806	66,832
3500 SICK LEAVE ACCRUAL PAY	107,672	109,805
3600 DEFERRED/UNEARNED REVENUE	530,815	634,680
3655 INVEST IN RIGHT OF USE	2,379	2,379
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$ 827,721	\$ 935,857
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 836,182	\$ 940,568
Total Liabilities	\$ 836,182	\$ 940,568
Equity		
3700 PRIOR YEAR BALANCE	(146,830)	(146,830)
3701 PRIOR YEAR FUND BALANCE	909,003	909,003
3702 CURRENT FUND BALANCE	200	200
Net Revenue	(123,072)	(126,833)
Total Equity	\$ 639,302	\$ 635,540
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 1,475,484	\$ 1,576,109

Capital Area Regional Planning Commission
Budget vs. Actuals: Statement of Activity
For the month of June - Budget Vs Actuals 6 Months Ended

	Total			
	Monthly Actual	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget	% of Annual Budget
Revenue				
5000 PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	-	-	-	
5001 DANE COUNTY PROP TAX-OTH	96,747	580,480	1,160,959	50.00%
Total 5000 PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	96,747	580,480	1,160,959	50.00%
5100 STATE/FEDERAL GRANTS	-	-	-	
5101 EPA/DNR WATER PLANNING	9,917	59,500	134,000	44.40%
5102 EPA/DNR GRANT FUNDS	-	2,877	-	
5103 WEM/FEMA/HMGP GRANT FUNDS	7,813	46,881	125,000	37.50%
5104 WisDOT PLAN INTEGRATION	1,046	7,530	5,457	137.99%
Total 5100 STATE/FEDERAL GRANTS	18,775	116,788	264,457	44.16%
5150 OTHER GRANTS	-	15,000	-	
5200 PASS THROUGH REVENUE	-	-	-	
5201 WisDOT RURAL WORK PROGRAM	629	2,639	7,093	37.20%
5220 COOP WATER RESOURCE MONITORING	31,563	69,125	68,200	101.36%
Total 5200 PASS THROUGH REVENUE	32,192	71,764	75,293	95.31%
5300 FEES REVENUE	-	-	-	
5301 FEES - SEWER EXTENSIONS	2,800	17,200	45,000	38.22%
5302 FEES - USA/LSA APP REVIEW	6,000	8,378	65,000	12.89%
Total 5300 FEES REVENUE	8,800	25,578	110,000	23.25%
5400 SERVICES REVENUE	-	-	-	
5401 LOCAL & REGIONAL PLAN ASSISTANCE	9,046	34,818	140,000	24.87%
Total 5400 SERVICES REVENUE	9,046	34,818	140,000	24.87%
5500 OTHER REVENUE	-	-	-	
5208 LAND USE CODE ASSESSMENT	-	-	-	
5501 INTEREST INCOME	1,883	11,651	32,000	36.41%
5502 MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES	6	39	3,123	1.25%
5505 WI SALT WISE	6,250	44,665	140,000	31.90%
Total 5500 OTHER REVENUE	8,139	56,355	175,123	32.18%
7000 REVENUE REFUNDS	-	-	-	
Total Revenue	173,698	900,782	1,925,832	46.77%
Gross Profit	173,698	900,782	1,925,832	46.77%
Expenditures	-	-	-	
6000 SALARIES AND LEAVE TIME	-	-	-	
6001 DIRECT SALARIES & WAGES	75,956	441,236	903,822	48.82%
6002 COMPENSATED LEAVE TIME	21,882	142,798	198,400	71.97%
Total 6000 SALARIES AND LEAVE TIME	97,838	584,034	1,102,222	52.99%
6050 FRINGE BENEFITS	-	-	-	
6051 FICA BENEFITS	6,755	40,850	82,115	49.75%
6052 LIFE INSURANCE	26	(36)	309	-11.63%
6053 HEALTH INSURANCE	22,480	143,305	329,364	43.51%
6054 DENTAL INSURANCE	1,074	6,442	15,369	41.91%
6055 WRS-ER CONTRIBUTION	6,055	37,588	73,440	51.18%
6056 DISABILITY INSURANCE	(9)	14	534	2.58%
6057 COMMUTE CARDS	171	1,105	200	552.58%
6058 UNEMPLOYMENT	10	514	1,000	51.42%

6059 WORKER'S COMPENSATION	-	-	2,771	0.00%
Total 6050 FRINGE BENEFITS	36,562	229,782	505,102	45.49%
6100 OCCUPANCY	-	-	-	
6101 RENT	4,382	26,295	51,833	50.73%
Total 6100 OCCUPANCY	4,382	26,295	51,833	50.73%
6200 CONTRACTED SERVICES	-	-	-	
6201 EXTERNAL PROGRAMS	-	2,150	-	
6202 LEGAL SERVICES	-	3,186	6,000	53.09%
6203 COMMISSION OPERATIONS	-	-	21,000	0.00%
6204 MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS	-	2,991	-	
Total 6200 CONTRACTED SERVICES	-	8,326	27,000	30.84%
6300 FINANCIAL SERVICES	-	-	-	
6301 AUDIT	-	5,350	15,435	34.66%
6302 PAYROLL FEES	682	4,252	5,250	80.99%
6303 FINANCIAL SERVICES	1,995	11,935	42,000	28.42%
Total 6300 FINANCIAL SERVICES	2,677	21,537	62,685	34.36%
6400 TRAVEL AND TRAINING	-	-	-	
6401 EMPLOYEE TRAVEL	542	4,034	13,349	30.22%
6402 MEALS	-	99	907	10.94%
6403 CONFERENCES & MEETINGS	1,446	2,912	9,638	30.21%
6404 TRAINING	-	-	3,000	0.00%
Total 6400 TRAVEL AND TRAINING	1,988	7,045	26,894	26.20%
6500 OFFICE EXPENSES	-	-	-	
6501 SUPPLIES	174	4,321	3,860	111.94%
6502 PRINTING	33	373	1,558	23.95%
6503 POSTAGE	-	28	105	26.55%
6504 EQUIPMENT	-	3,442	8,925	38.57%
6505 TELEPHONE	174	1,016	1,500	67.72%
6506 ADMINISTRATIVE FEES	209	363	442	82.16%
6902 CONTRIBUTIONS & DONATIONS	-	-	2,500	0.00%
Total 6500 OFFICE EXPENSES	591	9,543	18,890	50.52%
6600 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	-	-	-	
6601 WEBHOSTING	-	321	368	87.28%
6602 SOFTWARE	1,655	8,260	17,220	47.97%
6603 IT SERVICES	6,248	8,989	8,000	112.36%
Total 6600 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7,902	17,570	25,588	68.67%
6700 COMMISSION	-	-	-	
6701 COMMISSION PER DIEMS	250	2,200	8,000	27.50%
6702 COMMISSION TRAVEL	-	149	840	17.72%
Total 6700 COMMISSION	250	2,349	8,840	26.57%
6800 PASS THROUGH EXPENSES	-	-	-	
6801 WATER RESOURCE MONITORING	17,050	102,300	68,200	150.00%
6802 WisDOT PLANNING SERVICES	629	2,639	5,457	48.35%
Total 6800 PASS THROUGH EXPENSES	17,679	104,939	73,657	142.47%
6900 OTHER	-	-	-	
6901 DUES/MEMBERSHIPS/SUBSCRIPTIONS	34	2,834	7,186	39.44%
6903 EDUCATION/INFO/OUTREACH	-	1,881	1,500	125.42%
6904 RECRUITMENT	-	150	1,050	14.29%
6905 INSURANCE	-	7,366	4,709	156.42%
6906 DEPRECIATION	-	-	-	
6907 AMORITIZATION EXPENSE	34	203	608	33.32%
Total 6900 OTHER	68	12,434	15,053	82.60%
Uncategorized Expense	-	-	-	

Total Expenditures	169,937	1,023,854	1,917,764	53.39%
Net Operating Revenue	3,761	(123,072)	8,068	-1525.43%
Net Revenue	3,761	(123,072)	8,068	-1525.43%

Capital Area Regional Planning Commission
A/R Aging Summary
As of June 30, 2026

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	91 and over	Total
Ayers Associates, Inc.					1,000	1,000
City of Altoona					1,000	1,000
City of Fitchburg						0
255104 - Fitchburg Oregon Joint Planning	3,955					3,955
Total City of Fitchburg	\$ 3,955	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,955
City of Madison Engineering Division	800					800
City of Middleton	2,000					2,000
City of Sun Prairie	3,500					3,500
D'Onofrio Kottke and Associates	400					400
Department of Planning, Community and Economic Development					2,869	2,869
Dodge County Highway Department					1,500	1,500
Homburg Contractors, Inc.					400	400
Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc.					400	400
JSD PROFESSIONAL SER					800	800
MSA Professional Services, Inc.	400				2,000	2,400
Outagamie County Highway					500	500
PINNACLE ENGINEERING					400	400
State of Wisconsin						0
WI Department of Natural Resources					2,190	2,190
Total State of Wisconsin	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,190	\$ 2,190
Strand Associates, Inc			400			400
Town of Middleton	1,000					1,000
VANDE HEY					800	800
Vierbicher		400			800	1,200
Village of Black Earth	8,000				8,000	16,000
Village Of Cross Plains	8,000					8,000
Village of Deforest					3,070	3,070
Wyser Engineering, LLC					400	400
TOTAL	\$ 28,055	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 26,129	\$ 54,984

Re: Draft 2025 CARPC Annual Report – Staff Presentation and Discussion**Requested Action:**

None.

Background:

CARPC prepares an annual report every year in compliance with Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission statutes (Wis. Stat. § 66.0309(8)(b)).

Staff Comments:

None.

Attachments:

1. 2025 CARPC Annual Report

Staff Contact:

Caitlin Shanahan
Deputy Director
CaitlinS@CapitalAreaRPC.org
(608) 474-6021

Next Steps:

Publish annual report.

Annual Report 2025

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A Message from Our Chair



Dear Friends and Partners,

The challenges facing our region don't stop at municipal boundaries, and neither do the solutions. CARPC helps communities work together on issues that affect the region as a whole by providing technical expertise, reliable data, and a place to have the conversations that move projects forward.

That role is more important than ever. In 2025, a Regional Data Group convened by CARPC projected that Dane County could welcome another 275,000 residents by 2050. That's exciting, and it also raises important questions. How do we accommodate that growth while protecting the farms, lakes, wetlands, and open spaces that make this region such a special place to live? Those aren't questions any one community can answer alone. They require communities to work together, informed by sound data and thoughtful planning.

Over the past year, I saw that regional approach in action time and again. CARPC supported communities across every corner of Dane County while also expanding our work into neighboring counties after the Commission adopted *Guidelines for Work Outside Dane County*. That allowed staff to begin assisting with updates to the *Rock County Comprehensive Plan and Farmland Preservation Plan*, as well as preparing an *Active Transportation Plan* for the City of Evansville.

Some additional highlights from our 2025 work included:

- Launching a [two-year inventory of every town-owned bridge and culvert](#) where a road crosses a creek, supported by grants from Wisconsin Emergency Management and the Wisconsin DNR.
- Beginning the first major update to the [Dane County Water Quality Plan](#) since 2004.
- Continuing [Wisconsin Salt Wise's](#) work to advance smarter salt use across Wisconsin.
- Hosting the [Fall Forum](#) with the Greater Madison MPO, bringing local leaders together to discuss transportation challenges that cross municipal boundaries.
- Supporting regional water quality efforts through Executive Director Jason Valerius' role as Co-Chair of the Clean Lakes Alliance's Renew the Blue Council.

These accomplishments reflect what strong partnerships can achieve. Thank you for your continued collaboration and support. I look forward to continuing our work together in 2026.

Sincerely,

David Pfeiffer
Executive Chairperson



Who We Are

The Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) is one of nine commissions in Wisconsin established to coordinate planning and development among area municipalities. Our planning region includes over 560,000 people living in Dane County and its 8 cities, 20 villages, and 32 towns with incorporated areas. The region's water resources include 69 named lakes and ponds, over 475 miles of streams and rivers, and more than 52,000 acres of wetlands.

Commission

CARPC Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor of Madison, the Dane County Executive, the Dane County Cities' and Villages' Association, and the Dane County Towns Association. Commissioners serve three-year terms on a rotating basis and meet monthly to deliberate on regional development and water quality planning, sewer service area amendments, and administrative matters. They also set CARPC's budget, work program, and policies.

Many of our Commissioners serve as local elected officials in cities, villages, and towns across the

Dane County region. We continue working toward a commission that fully reflects the diversity of the region's population to best incorporate diverse perspectives into regional planning and policies.

Staff

Our team includes 10 full-time employees complemented by limited-term positions. CARPC's community planning staff primarily focus on managing the [regional land use plan](#) and providing [planning assistance](#) to local communities. Environmental resources staff administer the [Dane County Water Quality Plan](#), manage [sewer service area](#) amendments, and review [sewer extension](#) requests and stormwater management plans prior to land development. They also coordinate climate resilience planning, conduct resource studies and management activities, and manage the [Wisconsin Salt Wise](#) program.

As a team, staff bring a wide range of education, training, and professional expertise to the challenges facing the region. Services available to Capital Area communities include comprehensive planning, mapping, and data assistance. We also have hands-on experience with hazard mitigation planning, stormwater management, environmental regulations, urban design, ecology, and grant writing.

Commissioners

Mayor of Madison

Barbara Harrington-McKinney
(through March)

Regina Vidaver
(Appointed April)

Bill Tishler*

Alison Volk

Nick Zavos*
(through October)

Noah Lieberman
(Appointed November)

Dane County Executive

Steve Greb

Peter McKeever*
Treasurer

Caryl Terrell

Dane County Cities & Villages Association

Maureen Crombie*

Heidi Murphy*
Vice Chairperson

Jim Schuler

Dane County Towns Association

Kris Hampton*
(through April)

Audra Dalsoren
(Appointed April)

David Pfeiffer*
Executive Chairperson

Cynthia Richson*
Secretary

*Executive Committee

Staff

Jason Valerius, AICP
Executive Director

Tanya Sime (through May)
Joan Stuessy (May to September)
Matt Kozlowski (beginning August)
Administrative Services Manager

Sean Higgins, AICP
Senior Community Planner

Caitlin Shanahan, AICP
Senior Community Planner & Outreach Coordinator

Matthew Krempely
Community Planner

Kayla Haas
Joint Marketing & Communications Specialist

Nick Bower, PE
Senior Environmental Engineer

Prachi Mehendale, EIT
Environmental Engineer

Liz Levy
Environmental Resources Planner

Melissa Michaud
Environmental Resources Planner

Matt Noone
Senior Environmental Resources Planner

Allison Madison
WI Salt Wise Program Manager

Isaac Porter
Environmental Resources Technician (beginning May)

Kai Farrey
Environmental Resources Tech. (May to September)



UW MADISON FIRST NATIONS TOUR

Our Mission

The Capital Area Regional Planning Commission strengthens the region by engaging communities through planning, collaboration and assistance.

Our Vision

A region where communities create exceptional quality of life for all by working together to solve regional challenges.

What We Do

CARPC works with communities and organizations on a range of topics. Planning for the future is a collective responsibility that requires a collaborative approach.

Regional Development Planning

Per Wisconsin statutes, one of CARPC's core responsibilities is "preparing and adopting a master plan for the physical development of the region." This year, we implemented the *2050 Regional Development Framework* by convening collaborative processes, including an effort to develop population projections based on Dane County's unique growth dynamics. Read more on [page 6](#).

Water Quality Planning

The second major component of our planning responsibilities is administering the *Dane County Water Quality Plan*. This involves planning and modifying sewer service areas, along with reviewing sewer extension requests and stormwater management plans. In 2025, we continued our work with communities and stakeholders in the Starkweather Creek watershed to implement a chloride management plan. Our Ad-Hoc Water

Quality Committee worked to develop an improved sewer service area amendment process. Read more on [page 8](#).

Wisconsin Salt Wise Program

We are happy to house the Wisconsin Salt Wise Program within CARPC. The program made significant statewide impacts this year through training, public education, and legislative advocacy. Read more on [page 10](#).

Climate Resilience Planning

Since the major flood event that occurred in 2018, CARPC has been exploring opportunities for coordinated, intermunicipal projects to increase climate resilience. Over the last several years, CARPC staff have connected people to this mission by distributing hundreds of trees to residents, community groups, and school children. Learn more on [page 12](#).

Community Assistance & Engagement

CARPC provides ongoing assistance to Dane County communities, including interpreting data, making maps, and writing plans. In 2025, we partnered with the Greater Madison MPO to host one-day Fall Forum for nearly 50 elected officials, planners, engineers, and municipal staff from across Dane County. Read more on [page 14](#).

Partnerships

These activities may be what we do, but our partners and working relationships make us who we are. We worked throughout 2025 to leverage and expand those relationships in support of regional goals. Read more on [page 16](#).

Continued collaboration with area planning partners, local communities, and professionals like you makes our work possible. Thank you!

— “ —

Great sessions with a good variety of experts, planners, and local and state officials. Thank you so much!

— ” —

— 2025 CARPC-MPO
FALL FORUM ATTENDEE

— “ —

We have a good relationship with staff and they are very responsive to our questions. Most specifically their support on our draft boundary agreement and maintaining zoning data.

— ” —

— LYLE UPDIKE,
TOWN OF SUN PRAIRIE



Regional Development Planning

Beyond fulfilling statutory requirements to “prepare and adopt a master plan for the physical development of the region,” CARPC’s [2050 Regional Development Framework](#) serves as an advisory guide for achieving our shared goals while accommodating growth. The Framework incorporates top regional priorities – reducing and adapting to climate change, increasing equitable access to opportunities, and conserving vital natural, agricultural, and fiscal resources – into its strategies for future growth.

After adopting the Framework in 2022, CARPC shifted focus to implementation. Following the recommendations of a Proactive Planning Committee comprised of CARPC Commissioners and local government officials, implementation activities include relationship building, supporting local planning processes, facilitating intergovernmental dialogues, and convening collaborative processes.

Good Data Informs Good Planning

How many people will call Dane County home in 2050? It’s a simple question, but the answer shapes nearly every aspect of long-range planning—from housing and transportation to utilities, parks, and public infrastructure.

For years, communities relied on a single set of statewide population projections to help answer that question. But as Dane County continued to grow faster than expected, many local planners found themselves asking the same thing: Do these numbers reflect what we’re actually seeing on the ground?

This led CARPC to convene the Regional Data Group (RDG) in 2025. Bringing together planners, demographers, and local government staff from across Dane County, the group combined demographic data with local knowledge of housing construction, employment trends, development patterns, and land available for growth to develop a new set of population and household projections.

The result paints a different picture of Dane County’s future. The RDG projects the county could reach approximately **887,000 residents by 2050**, more than 325,000 additional residents compared with the 2020 Census. The county will need approximately **160,000 additional homes** to accommodate these residents.

But producing the projections was only the beginning. Starting in September 2025, CARPC hosted webinars, met with local officials, gave presentations, published fact sheets and press releases, and answered questions from communities about the new methodology and what the projections mean for local planning.

CARPC staff then worked with the Greater Madison MPO to integrate the new projections into the Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZs) used for transportation modeling, updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and maintaining the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The projections will also be incorporated into sewer service planning and local comprehensive planning processes.

2025 Regional Development Planning Projects, Programs & Accomplishments

- To help **track progress toward Regional Development Framework goals**, Matt Krempely and Liz Levy developed a database to reliably track the timing and location of development throughout Dane County.
- Through his dual role as a CARPC Senior Community Planner and Lecturer at the UW-Madison Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture, Sean Higgins initiated a long-term collaboration to identify Regional Development Framework implementation opportunities in the **Door Creek Corridor** east of I-90/94 between Sun Prairie and McFarland.
- In an effort to learn more about **farmland preservation and agricultural conservation practices**, CARPC staff began attending meetings and events hosted by groups like Yahara Pride Farms, Dane Demo Farms, Groundswell Conservancy, and the American Farmland Trust.
- CARPC staff continued facilitating talks between the **Town and City of Sun Prairie** in the pursuit of a cooperative plan under Wis. Stat. §66.037.



WINGRA CREEK KAYAK TOUR
WITH CLEAN LAKES ALLIANCE



VILLAGE OF OREGON WALKING TOUR



DANE COUNTY LANDFILL TOUR AT THE
2025 MIDWEST CLIMATE SUMMIT



STARKWEATHER CREEK CONTINUOUS MONITORING

Water Quality Planning

CARPC works to manage, protect, and enhance regional water quality by implementing and updating the [Dane County Water Quality Plan](#). As the local agent of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), CARPC works with communities to develop and implement local plans that align with the regional water quality plan.

Chloride Monitoring & Community Impact

Every winter, thousands of tons of road salt are applied to Wisconsin roads, sidewalks, and driveways with the goal of keeping people safe. But once the snow melts, excess salt doesn't simply disappear—it dissolves and washes into nearby streams and lakes, contributing to chloride pollution.

For the past five years, CARPC has been working with partners and volunteers to better understand salt pollution in the Starkweather Creek watershed, a 24-square-mile basin that flows through northeast Madison before emptying into Lake Monona. Since

the adoption of the [Starkweather Creek Watershed Chloride Management Plan](#) in 2020, more than 40 volunteers have collected over 200 chloride samples from nine locations throughout the watershed.

In 2025, that work took an important step forward. Thanks to a Community-Based Water Research Grant from UW–Madison, CARPC partnered with the State Cartographer's Office and Operation Fresh Start to install eight continuous conductivity meters throughout the watershed. The new monitors collect data every 10 minutes, giving researchers and local partners a much more complete picture of how chloride levels fluctuate with changing stream and weather conditions.

But the project's impact went beyond better data—it also opened doors for people.

Young adults in Operation Fresh Start's Conservation Academy, a Dane County nonprofit that helps young adults build career skills through paid, hands-on training and education, helped install the monitoring equipment while gaining firsthand experience with water quality monitoring. They also participated in a three-day GIS workshop led by CARPC staff, where they learned the basics of digital mapping and how environmental data is used to solve real-world challenges.

For one participant, Kai Farrey, the experience led to a position with CARPC as an Environmental Resources Technician, supporting the Dane County Road-Stream Crossing Inventory.

The project also inspired new community partnerships. Through a series of field demonstrations and educational events, CARPC connected with community members and local organizations, ultimately leading to the creation of the Adopt-a-Meter program. The program gives organizations and community members the opportunity to financially support and help maintain a specific meter in the monitoring network. Early adopters include the Madison Rotary Club, UW-Madison's Chemistry Department, and the State Cartographer's Office.

Better data was the goal, but the project's greatest impact may be the people and partnerships it inspired along the way.

2025 Water Quality Planning Projects, Programs & Accomplishments

- CARPC's [updated Environmental Corridors Report](#) was adopted as part of the [Dane County Water Quality Plan](#) and approved by the Wisconsin DNR.
- Began updating the **Environmental Corridor Policies & Criteria**, including consultation with key stakeholders and subject matter experts.
- CARPC received **\$48,000 in Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding** to update the *Dane County Water Quality Plan Summary Plan*.
- CARPC's **Ad-Hoc Water Quality Committee** provided guidance and review for an update to sewer service area amendment policies to address bottlenecks, increase efficiency, and improve process outcomes.
- Worked to renew an expiring agreement with local municipalities to fund a USGS monitoring program focused on the **Yahara River watershed**, reaching a final agreement in 2026.
- Continued coordinating with local municipalities and USGS on a monitoring program in the **Black Earth Creek Watershed**.

2025 Urban Service Area Amendments



4
SEWER
SERVICE AREA
AMENDMENTS
APPROVED BY DNR

2025 Sewer Extension Reviews



50
GREENFIELD



25
INFILL /
REDEVELOPMENT



23
RECONSTRUCTION
/ OTHER



22
STORMWATER
PLAN REVIEWS



Wisconsin SaltWise Program

[Wisconsin SaltWise](#) is a coalition of organizations working together to reduce salt pollution in Wisconsin's lakes, streams, and drinking water. Since its creation as a Madison-area partnership in 2015, SaltWise has grown into a statewide program centered on training, public education, and advocacy. Originally housed within the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, the Wisconsin SaltWise program officially became part of CARPC in 2023.

Leveraging the Power of Social Learning

Social learning has long been a cornerstone of the WI SaltWise Equipment Open Houses. In 2025, SaltWise expanded the use of peer-to-peer conversations with powerful results.

In April, we hosted SaltWise Season Debriefs in Madison and Milwaukee that facilitated cross-sector dialogue between department of public works staff and private snow removal contractors. While SaltWise has historically trained these groups separately, the depth and openness of the conversations

underscored how much participants have in common and helped attendees better understand the unique challenges each group faces. The richness of these exchanges made it clear that future SaltWise programming would benefit from more intentional opportunities for peer-to-peer learning.

Insights from the Madison-area Season Debrief directly shaped new programming. In July, we partnered with local contractors to host the first-ever SaltWise 101 for Property Managers, addressing a clear need identified by participants. Planning is underway for a repeat event in February 2026. This high-level curriculum was also adapted for presentations to the International Facility Management Association–Fox Valley Chapter and a local chamber of commerce.

Another new practice introduced in 2025 was inviting participants to share their current winter maintenance practices at the start of each event and to identify a specific next step at the conclusion. This approach not only reinforces accountability and reflection but also provides SaltWise with better insight into on-the-ground practices and goals. Improved tracking of this information will help us more effectively support participants and further reduce salt pollution in Lake Michigan and freshwater resources across the state.

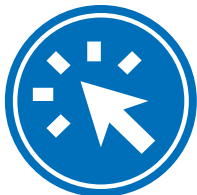
2025 by the Numbers



15
WORKSHOPS



8
OPEN HOUSES



900+
WINTER SALT WEEK
REGISTRANTS



9
AGENCY TRAININGS



3,299
WEBINAR VIEWS

Learn more about Wisconsin Salt Wise's 2025 activities, including maps and visuals, in the program's [2025 Partner Report](#).



2025 EXCELLENCE IN SNOW AND
ICE CONTROL AWARD WINNER



WI APWA 2025 SNOWPLOW ROADEO



SCIENCE TEACHING FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE COHORT



SCHOOL NURSERY TREE CRIBS

Climate Resilience Planning

Through our Climate Resilience Planning program, CARPC collaborates with a wide range of partners to increase regional flood resilience through green infrastructure and proactive planning. We also lead several efforts to promote a healthy and equitable regional [tree canopy](#) by developing unique data and mapping products and strategic partnerships.

Tree Canopy Initiatives Provide a Tangible Connection to Regional Goals

Trees are deeply rooted in the *2050 Regional Development Framework* goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and fostering community resilience to climate change. Through [extensive public outreach](#), CARPC staff have distributed hundreds of trees to municipalities, nonprofits, Friends groups, and community members, providing the public with a physical connection to our big-picture regional goals.

In 2025, CARPC staff and partners distributed over 700 trees – primarily [heritage oak](#) saplings – through educational tabling, tree planting events, and school

nursery installations. These saplings made their way to [23 Wisconsin counties and 13 states](#) across the U.S.

Over 400 K-12 students in Dane County have contributed to the success of our [school tree nursery program](#). In 2025, two new nurseries were established at LaFollette High School in Madison and the Severson Learning Center in Cambridge. CARPC is now working with the Wisconsin DNR and the University of Wisconsin–Steven’s Point to spread this work even further by developing a professional lesson plan and curriculum that can be adopted by interested schools throughout the state.

In the summer of 2025, CARPC partnered with Dane County Planning & Development, Parks, and the [Dane County Tree Board](#) to launch the Dane County Rural Free Tree Program. Through this program, all newly constructed homes and rezoned properties on prior farmlands – which typically don’t have any trees – will receive a flyer explaining how to obtain two free trees along with maintenance instructions.

[Remarkable Trees of Dane County](#) is a digital community involvement project developed through a 2025 collaboration between CARPC, the State Cartographer’s Office, and Urban Tree Alliance. Any community member can add their favorite tree to this crowd-sourced web map, sharing its story with fellow Dane County tree enthusiasts.

2025 Road-Stream Crossing Inventory



\$282K
IN GRANT FUNDING



25
TOWNSHIPS
SURVEYED



528
CROSSINGS
INVENTORIED



11
REPORTS
COMPLETED

2025 Climate Resilience Projects, Programs & Accomplishments

- Led the **Black Earth Creek Watershed Green Infrastructure Plan** Steering Committee to continue supporting plan implementation
- Began work on a grant-funded project to create a statewide **old-growth forest and prairie remnant map** in partnership with the State Cartographer's Office
- Provided data and mapping to help plant and maintain 100-125 trees in south Madison through the **Neighborhood Forest Project**, a partnership with WI Eco-Latinos, Operation Fresh Start, Sustain Dane, and the Urban Tree Alliance
- Partnered with Trout Unlimited to continue the [Dane County Road-Stream Crossing Inventory](#)



TREE PLANTING AT SCHENK ELEMENTARY



TREE CANOPY COLLABORATIVE
OLD GROWTH FOREST TOUR



BLACK EARTH CREEK



CARPC-MPO 2025 FALL FORUM

Community Assistance & Engagement

CARPC-MPO Fall Forum: One Conversation, One Regional Response

A bike path doesn't stop at a city or village boundary, nor does a watershed, a daily commute, or even a snowstorm. So many of the transportation challenges our communities face are regional by nature, making collaboration just as important as local action.

That idea was the driving force behind the 2025 Fall Forum. CARPC and the Greater Madison MPO brought together nearly 50 elected officials, planners, engineers, and municipal staff from across Dane County for a day of learning, discussion, and problem-solving. We covered everything from regional transit and EV charging to watershed coordination and winter road maintenance, but the real value wasn't just in the presentations. It was in the conversations that happened between them.

People compared notes, sharing what was working, what wasn't, and the challenges they kept running into. Before long, a pattern started to emerge: people at every table were asking many of the same questions about e-devices. What exactly counts as an e-bike? What about the devices that look like e-bikes but can travel 40 or even 50 miles per hour? Are they allowed on bike paths? What are other communities doing? And how can we avoid creating a patchwork of different rules from one municipality to the next?

This ultimately spurred the Greater Madison MPO to prepare regional guidance on electric transportation devices, defining different device types and providing recommendations that communities can use as they develop local policies. The effort also inspired a regional safety campaign featuring videos and educational resources that local governments can share to help residents better understand different device types and how to ride safely.

The Fall Forum was a reminder that some of the region's biggest transportation challenges don't stop at municipal boundaries, and neither do the best ideas. When communities come together to learn from one another, conversations become collaboration, and collaboration becomes practical solutions that benefit the entire region.

2025 Data, Mapping, & Community Assistance Accomplishments

- Updated our [Open Data Portal](#), redesigned the [CARPC News Explorer](#), and created a [Land Use Archive Explorer](#)
- Developed a first-of-its-kind **building attribute dataset** that includes unique spatial identifiers for all buildings in Dane County, as well as build year and unit count for residential buildings
- Maintained **zoning maps** for the Towns of Bristol, Berry, Springfield, Blue Mounds, and Sun Prairie
- Completed the [Bordner Survey Digitization](#)
- Developed maps of [Witness Trees](#), [Dane County Friends of Groups](#), [Land Patents](#), and [rooftop solar](#) and expanded our [historic bird's-eye view map](#)
- Assisted with comprehensive plan updates for [Rock County](#) and the [Town of Berry](#)
- Conducted legislative outreach advocating for state budget items that support water and resource conservation projects
- Held hands-on GIS trainings for [OFS Conservation Academy](#) crew members and teens in [Sustain Dane's Powerful Teen Leaders](#) program.



STARKWEATHER MONITORING OPEN HOUSE



TROUT DAYS

2025 Outreach & Engagement



613

NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS

13

LOCAL MEDIA
FEATURES

19

COMMUNITY
EVENTS

672

LINKEDIN
FOLLOWERS



CHANNEL 3 COVERAGE OF STREAM
CROSSING INVENTORY



Our Planning Partners

Within the greater Madison region, virtually all planning processes occur through ongoing partnerships and collaborations. CARPC collaborates with several other regional organizations in an effort to integrate land use planning with related areas such as transportation planning and economic development. In addition to specifically working with Dane County and municipalities, staff also regularly participate in important water quality and natural resource initiatives across the region.

In 2025, staff actively participated in organizational events and activities at local, regional, and statewide scales, including serving on boards and committees, conducting outreach and education, and giving presentations.

Our 2025 partnerships and collaborations included:

- AARP Wisconsin
- Black Earth Creek Watershed Association
- Capitol Water Trails

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT Midwest Climate Collaborative



CARPC joined the Midwest Climate Collaborative (MCC) in 2022 as a founding member. Over the years, our membership has helped us bring research partnerships, networking and relationship building opportunities, informational resources, and technical assistance back to our partner agencies and communities.

In 2025, the MCC held the **2025 Midwest Climate Summit** in Madison, bringing nearly 500 climate leaders, researchers, students, and professionals to the Capital Region. CARPC staff co-chaired the event, led a bike tour, presented conference sessions, provided heritage oak seedlings to attendees, and moderated the closing panel. We're proud to have helped showcase all the innovative actions being taken by Dane County communities and organizations to the wider Midwest region.

- Clean Lakes Alliance / Yahara CLEAN Compact
- Dane County Cities' and Villages' Association
- Dane County Land & Water Resources and Planning & Development Departments
- Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change
- Dane County Towns Association
- Dane County Tree Board
- Dane County Tree Canopy Collaborative
- Downtown Madison, Inc.
- Driftless Area Land Conservancy
- Friends of Starkweather Creek
- Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Madison MPO
- Green Tier Clear Waters Initiative
- Groundswell Conservancy
- Heartwood Tree Company
- Lake Waubesa Conservation Association
- Local units of government
- Madison Area Builders Association
- Madison Area Municipal Stormwater Partnership (MAMSWaP)
- Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD)
- Midwest Climate Collaborative
- Madison Rotary Club
- Operation Fresh Start
- Schenk & Nuestro Mundo Elementary Schools
- Smart Growth Greater Madison
- Sustain Dane
- The Nature Conservancy
- The State Cartographer's Office
- The Urban Tree Alliance
- The Wisconsin State Trails Council
- Trout Unlimited
- UW-Madison Center for Limnology
- UW-Madison Planning & Landscape Architecture and Chemistry Departments
- U.S. Geological Service
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation
- Wisconsin EcoLatinos
- Yahara Pride Farms



SUSTAIN DANE



MIDWEST CLIMATE COLLABORATIVE



OPERATION FRESH START



9%
INCREASE IN
TOTAL
REVENUE

9%
INCREASE IN
TOTAL
EXPENSES

\$243K
IN GRANT FUNDS
CAPTURED FOR THE
CAPITAL REGION

Financials

CARPC is primarily funded through an annual property tax levy included in the Dane County tax bill, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §66.0309(14)(b). Other major revenue sources include local payments for water resource monitoring (which CARPC passes through to USGS) and an annual water quality planning grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Fees from reviewing sewer service area amendment applications and issuing Section 208 letters of plan conformance and contracts for local planning assistance projects round out our revenue portfolio.

2025 Revenues

While the dollar value of CARPC’s revenue from the county property tax levy has increased each year since 2022, it has steadily become a smaller percentage of our revenue: 67% of budget in 2022 vs 60% in 2025

Revenues from federal and state grants increased 88% from 2023 as we completed grant-funded work on the Stream Crossing Inventory, while the share of revenues from planning, GIS, and other local and regional service contracts increased nearly \$75,000

from 2024 to 2025. Sewer service amendment fee revenues decreased significantly (42%) primarily due to a below average number of sewer service area amendment requests in 2025. Overall, total revenues increased 9% from 2024 to 2025.

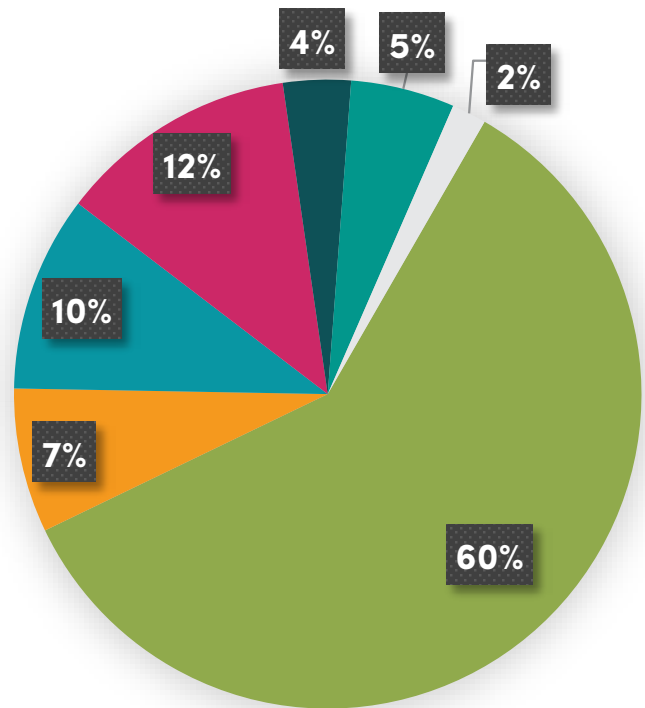
2025 Expenses

The majority of the agency’s operating expenses are incurred by personnel costs, including salaries and wages, group insurance, participation in the Wisconsin Retirement System, and FICA taxes. Professional services such as IT, legal, accounting, and partner organizations that support our programmatic work take up about 20% of our operating budget.

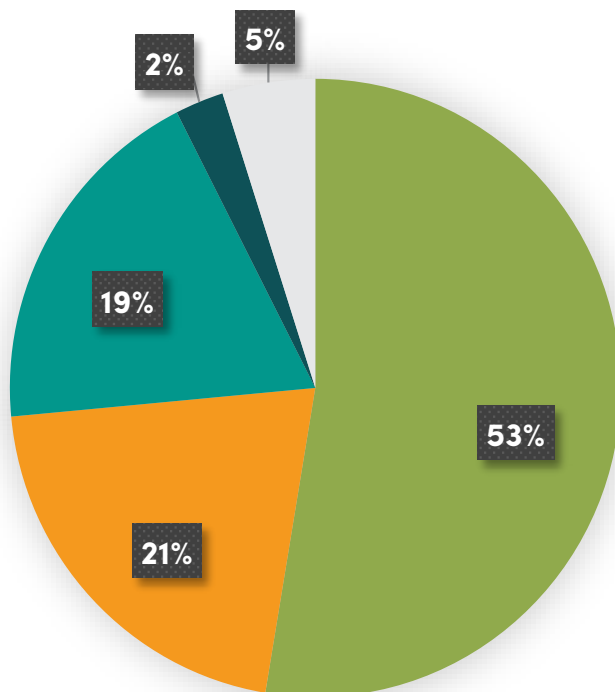
Expenditures on employee benefits increased 25% in 2025 due to significant increases in health insurance costs. All other expense categories increased modestly between 2024 and 2025, with the exception of rent, which decreased slightly. Total expenses increased 9% overall from 2024 to 2025.

Total Revenues: \$1,971,822

■ Property Tax	\$1,173,808
■ WI Salt Wise	\$146,376
■ Water Resource Monitoring	\$198,695
■ Federal & State Grants	\$243,369
■ Sewer Extension & Service Area Review Fees	\$68,807
■ Planning & Other Services	\$105,595
■ Other	\$35,172



Total Expenses: \$2,000,218



■ Salaries & Wages	\$1,052,480
■ Employee Benefits	\$418,074
■ Professional Services	\$379,851
■ Rent	\$51,580
■ Supplies & Other Expenses	\$99,233



August 2026

CAPITAL AREA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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