



Take notice that the City of Ashland Committee of the Whole will meet in person in the City Hall Council Chambers, 601 Main Street W. Ashland, WI immediately following the adjournment of the City Council Meeting with the availability to attend virtually, to consider and act upon the following agenda.

To join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/500263957>

Or dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1-877-309-2073 Access Code: 500-263-957

Please contact the Clerk's office if you require accommodations to attend the meeting.

Tuesday, July 9, 2024 Ashland Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Council President's Report**
4. **Administrator's Report**
5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - A. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Above-Garage or Accessory Dwelling Living Quarters** *(Councilor Ortman)*
 - B. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Regulations of Private Wells on Personal Property** *(Councilor Jackson)*
 - C. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Amending Chapter 194, Procurement of Goods and Services, Ashland City Ordinances, to Allow for Greater Efficiency Obtaining Signatures on Contracts** *(Public Works)*
 - D. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Wisconsin Department of Transportation Urban Area Boundary** *(Public Works)*
 - E. **Presentation and Discussion on Future Streets Projects** *(Public Works)*
 - F. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Future Budgeting to Assist Funding for 4th of July Fireworks** *(Councilor Seefeldt)*
 - G. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Request to Support Redesignation of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as a National Park** *(Councilor Ortman)*
6. **Items for Future Discussion**



7. **Adjournment**

The City of Ashland does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, age or disability in employment or provision of services, programs or activities.

NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, the City of Ashland will accommodate the needs of disabled individuals or individuals with limited English proficiency through auxiliary aids or services. For additional information or to request this service, contact the City Clerk's Office at 715-682-7071 (not a TDD telephone number) or FAX: 715-682-7048

Ref: 2024-169

**COMMITTEE AGENDA:
5.A. (7/9/2024)**

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Above-Garage or Accessory Dwelling Living Quarters (*Councilor Ortman*)

RECOMMENDATION: Discussion and Possible

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Councilor Ortman

CLEARANCES: Council President

EXHIBITS:

COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC PLAN: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Council President Ortman requested a discussion regarding accessory dwelling living quarters. Current zoning regulations allow accessory dwelling units but there is ambiguity in the ordinances which can result in confusion when interpreting the ordinances. City Planning staff are currently working on a number of ordinance amendments that would clarify where and when the construction of accessory dwelling units are permitted. The ordinance updates are set for the next Plan Commission meeting. The Planning and Development Director can provide an update at the COW meeting on the current regulations and where things are at regarding proposed ordinance amendments.

Ref: 2024-171

**COMMITTEE AGENDA:
5.B. (7/9/2024)**

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Regulations of Private Wells on Personal Property (*Councilor Jackson*)

RECOMMENDATION: Discussion and Possible Action

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Councilor Jackson

CLEARANCES: Council President

EXHIBITS:

**COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC
PLAN:**

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Councilor Jackson requested a conversation regarding the city's regulations affecting private property well owners.

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Amending Chapter 194,
Procurement of Goods and Services, Ashland City Ordinances, to Allow for
Greater Efficiency Obtaining Signatures on Contracts (*Public Works*)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as Recommended

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Public Works Director

CLEARANCES: City Attorney

EXHIBITS:

**COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC
PLAN:**

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Public Works Department does the majority of the contractual-based work on behalf of the City. At the request of the Public Works Director, the City Attorney's office has researched State of Wisconsin requirements for signatory authorities for City contracts.

The statutes require the Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer and City Attorney to sign all construction related contracts. For professional service agreements, current practice has the Mayor, Clerk, and Treasurer signing applicable contracts. The statutes would allow the City Administrator to sign contracts and professional services agreements in lieu of the Mayor if authorized by the Council. This authorization would be provided via City Ordinance 194.

A notable exclusion to signatory authority on any City contract is the City Administrator. All of the contracts described above are subject to the approval of the City Council, depending on the amount of the purchase/contract. In terms of "signing contracts", this discussion refers to the City staff that are asked to be part of contract execution following City Council approval.

These practices occupy significant staff time, both on the part of the staff serving as signatory authorities and the staff responsible for contract administration and actual implementation of the contracts. With the Mayor being part time, staff recommends authorizing the City Administrator to sign contracts and agreements for improved efficiency.

Council discussion on the proposed modification to authorize the City Ad Ordinance 194 is requested, with possible recommendation for approval at a future Council meeting. In addition, the City Attorney's office has proposed some minor revisions to existing language for clarification.

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Wisconsin Department of Transportation Urban Area Boundary (Public Works)

RECOMMENDATION: Discussion and Possible Action

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Public Works

CLEARANCES: Public Works Director

EXHIBITS:

1.	Ashland_Proposed_UAB_101723
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COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC PLAN: INFRASTRUCTURE

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Urban Area Boundary (UAB) is established by the US Census Bureau every 10 years. The UAB is used by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WI DOT) to determine eligibility for grants related to street improvements. The City actively participates in these WI DOT grant programs.

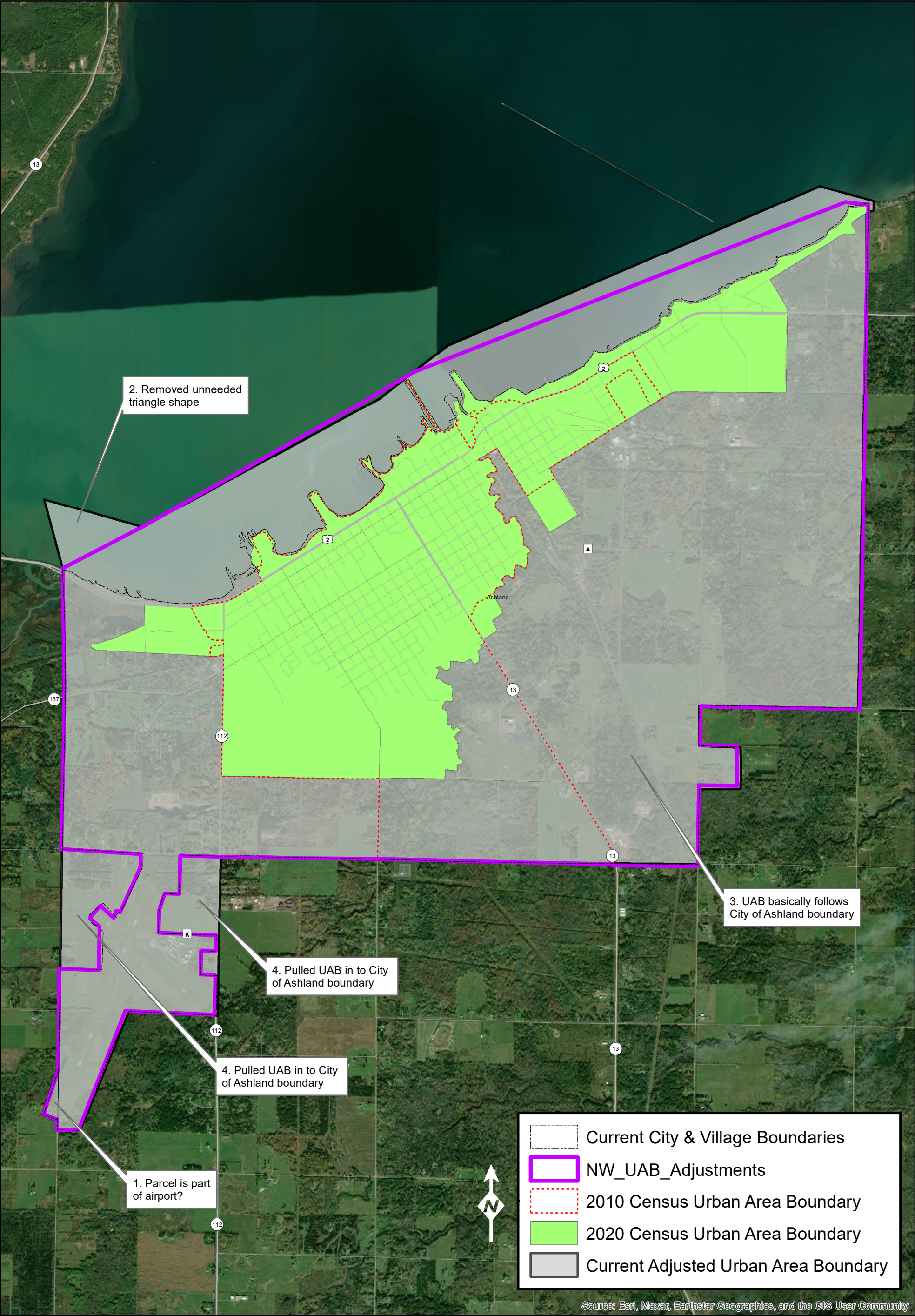
The previous UAB included some irregularities: specific portions of Chequamegon Bay being included and the exclusion of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Airport, as shown in the attached map. The WI DOT is requesting City approval of a revised UAB by Council resolution.

The Public Works Director is requesting Council recommendation of the revised UAB for approval by resolution at a future Council meeting.

Ashland Urban Area

(Adjusted Urban Area Boundary)

DRAFT



Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community

SUBJECT: Presentation and Discussion on Future Streets Projects (*Public Works*)

RECOMMENDATION: Discussion only

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Public Works

CLEARANCES: City Administrator
Public Works Director

EXHIBITS:

COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC PLAN: Infrastructure

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Public Works Department has been attempting to shift the planning and design of streets projects to be coordinated via a 5-year capital improvement plan. Planning streets projects years in advance has many benefits to the community and infrastructure, as supported by the City Strategic Plan, which states that residents will access the city's infrastructure via a "20 year repair and replacement plan, supported by budget plans on 5-years increments."

Future street projects not discussed with the Council in recent history include the following. No Council action is requested, this information is presented for Council information as the Public Works Department moves forward with project implementation.

Chapple Avenue Reconstruction 6th Street West - 11th Street West - 2025. Partially funded by \$511K grant from WI DOT Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP). Includes replacement of approximately 25 private lead service laterals (LSLs). Direction from the City Administrator has included maximizing efforts to preserve existing street trees. No selection for engineering consultant has occurred. Staff expects to request approval from Council in late summer 2024. No funds were budgeted for design in 2024 but funding is available in fund balance for Fund 470- Street Improvements and Fund 680- Water Utility.

13th Avenue East Reconstruction US Hwy 2 - 2026. Staff is pursuing \$1M from a Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDGB), which will be applied towards streets, storm sewer and sidewalk costs. This includes replacement of the 16-inch water main installed in 1888 which provides water supply to the majority of the City. This main has broken six times in the past 20 yrs, including on Thanksgiving Day in 2022. Also included is replacement of approximately thirteen private LSLs. The selection committee which consists of the Civil Engineer-Streets, Planning Director and a Public Works Committee

member selected Cedar Corp for the engineering consultant but a contract has yet to be negotiated. Funds were budgeted in 2024 for this project but labeled as "Main Street East Reconstruction". Discussion with Cedar Corp has determined that this project is not a good fit for CDGB funding requirements, so Public Works will request reallocation of the funds to 13th Street East. CDGB funding requires completion of engineering design in Spring 2025 for construction in 2026.

In addition to these projects, the Public Works Department recently was notified of the award of approximately \$1.2M in grant funding for the resurfacing of 11th Avenue East (US2 to Pufall Drive), resurfacing of 11th Street West (Beaser Ave to Ellis Ave) and reconstruction of 11th Street East (Ellis to Prentice Avenue). Funding for these projects comes from the LRIP and Surface Transportation Program.

Ref: 2024-170

**COMMITTEE AGENDA:
5.F. (7/9/2024)**

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Future Budgeting to Assist
Funding for 4th of July Fireworks (*Councilor Seefeldt*)

RECOMMENDATION: Discussion and Possible Action

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Councilor Seefeldt

CLEARANCES: Council President

EXHIBITS:

**COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC
PLAN:**

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

In response to a citizen comment, Councilor Seefeldt requested to discuss the potential of future budgeting to assist in funding of th of July fireworks.

Ref: 2024-175

**COMMITTEE AGENDA:
5.G. (7/9/2024)**

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Request to Support
Redesignation of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as a National
Park (*Councilor Ortman*)

RECOMMENDATION: Discussion and Possible Action

DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Councilor Ortman

CLEARANCES: Mayor

EXHIBITS:

1.	Email correspondence, June 28, 2024
2.	Apostle Islands National Park Act
3.	Apostle Islands National Park Flyer

**COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC
PLAN:**

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Councilor Ortman received an email asking for support of a bill to be introduced in the near future by Congressman Tiffany, to redesignate the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as a National Park.

Denise Oliphant

From: Knezic
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2024 10:44 AM
To: district6@coawi.org
Cc: mmackenzie@coawi.org; doliphant@coawi.org
Subject: Apostle Islands National Park Letter of Support Request
Attachments: Apostle Islands National Park Act.pdf; Apostle Islands National Park Flyer.pdf

Hello Charlie,

I am reaching out to share that Congressman Tiffany will be introducing a bill to redesignate the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as a National Park. Following the designation, the region will be home to Wisconsin's only National Park, and we anticipate a significant boost in regional tourism, as well as an increase in additional resources to operate the Park.

Tom is seeking letters of support for his bill. Would the City of Ashland be willing to submit a letter on behalf of the Congressman? We would greatly appreciate your support, and your letter will be an important piece in achieving the creation of the Apostle Islands National Park.

I've attached the draft bill, a one-pager on the benefits of the designation, and a generic letter of support for your review.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out, and we will be happy to discuss this further with you. Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to cooperating with you as we move toward Wisconsin's first National Park.

 [Generic LOS.docx](#)

Nick Knezic
Office of Congressman Tom Tiffany (WI-07)
2620 Stewart Ave. Suite 312
Wausau, WI 54401
(715) 298-9344
Nick.Knezic@mail.house.gov

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To rename the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as the Apostle Islands
National Park, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. TIFFANY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To rename the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as the
Apostle Islands National Park, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Apostle Islands Na-
5 tional Park Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. APOSTLE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Public Law 91–424 (16 U.S.C.
8 460w et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “National Lakeshore” each
2 place it appears and inserting “National Park”; and

3 (2) by striking “lakeshore” each place it ap-
4 pears and inserting “Park”.

5 (b) NONAPPLICATION.—The amendment made by
6 subsection (a)(1) shall not apply to the titles of the maps
7 referred to in subsections (a) and (c) of the first section
8 of Public Law 91–424 (16 U.S.C. 460w).

9 (c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
10 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
11 States to the “Apostle Islands National Lakseshore” shall
12 be deemed to be a reference to the “Apostle Islands Na-
13 tional Park”.

14 **SEC. 3. SAND ISLAND NATIONAL PRESERVE.**

15 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Sand
16 Island National Preserve.

17 (b) DESCRIPTION.—The Sand Island National Pre-
18 serve established by subsection (a) shall consist of the land
19 and interests in land on Sand Island, located in Apostle
20 Islands National Park (as so designated by the amend-
21 ments made by section 2(a)).



Creating the

APOSTLE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

WISCONSIN'S FIRST AND ONLY NATIONAL PARK.

Increased Tourism and More Visitors

In 2022, visitor spending in communities near national parks generated a record \$50.3 billion boost to the nation's economy and supported 378,400 jobs. By making the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore into the Apostle Islands National Park, our communities will see **enhanced economic growth, more visitation, and expanded job opportunities**. For example, in 2018, while still a National Lakeshore, Indiana Dunes had 1.75 million visitors. After the change in 2019, visitation immediately went up to 2.13 million visitors and increased jobs and economic development in the area.

Protects Landscapes

The region will see a significant increase in funding from both state and federal governments, aimed at **enhancing conservation efforts, educational programs, and community development** to support the national park.

Maintains Hunting Access

A designated portion of the area will be set aside as a hunting reserve. From 2015 through 2022, only 3 deer were harvested on the entire National Lakeshore while Madeline Island alone had 655 deer harvested in the same timeframe. The establishment of this reserve aims to **protect hunting access**.

