

State law requires local planning commissions to have either 7, 9 or 11 members appointed to three year terms (except that initial appointments may be less to allow 1/3 of the members to expire each year). As the MCJPC represents four municipalities, a 9 member commission is practical but not the only option under the enabling legislation. Furthermore, a review of the State enabling legislation indicates that the sole authority for appointing members to the Joint Planning Commission rests with the legislative bodies of the participating municipalities. Also note that the 9th member cannot be ex-officio as State statues limit this number to 1/3 of the commission, which is interpreted to mean 1/3 from each member unit. With this in mind, here are five (5) possible options for the consideration, and recommendation to the member Boards in the form of the Joint Planning Agreement, for the JPC membership.

1. The 9th member may be appointed by the Village of Manchester as the most populous unit. The ninth member may be required to reside anywhere in the MCJMP region and have specific expertise or experience in a particular discipline necessary and appropriate to the function of the MCJPC.
2. The 9th member may be appointed by the Village of Manchester as the unit with the most diverse and intense land uses. The ninth member may be required to reside in the Village or may be a resident of Manchester Township residing in the Growth Transition Area.
3. The 9th member may be appointed by the Township of Manchester as the second most populous unit and with jurisdiction over the proposed Growth Transition Area surrounding the Village. The ninth member may be required to reside in the Growth Transition Area and the township.
4. The 9th member may be rotated among the four jurisdictions through staggering the terms of service. This enables each jurisdiction to have a 3rd member every four years, but it does not allow for the reappointment of a member after his/her term has expired.
5. The 9th member may be nominated by the Joint Planning Commission and approved for appointment by all of the participating municipalities. The additional member must reside or work within the Joint Master Plan area.