

Sustaining Places through the Comprehensive Plan

February 18, 2015

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. ET

CMI 1.5

Sponsors:



Today's Speakers



Benjamin A. Herman, FAICP
Senior Consultant
Clarion Associates



David C. Rouse, AICP
Managing Director of Research
American Planning Association

Today's Speakers



Paul DiGiuseppe, CNU-A

Principal Planner

City of Austin Planning and Development
Review Department



Abby Wiles

Assistant Planning & Zoning Administrator
Goshen City Planning

Today's Speakers



Jennifer C. Rigby, AICP
Long Range Planner
New Hanover County



Overview

1. Introduction to Sustaining Places
2. Background and the standards
3. Goshen case study
4. New Hanover County case study
5. Austin case study
6. Final thoughts
7. Q&A

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1. Introduction to Sustaining Places



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Planning for Sustaining Places

“Planning for sustainability is the defining challenge of the 21st century.”

APA Sustaining Places Task Force, 2010



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What is Planning for Sustaining Places?

“A dynamic, democratic process through which communities plan to meet the needs of current and future generations without compromising the ecosystems upon which they depend by balancing social, economic, and environmental resources, incorporating resilience, and linking local actions to regional and global concerns.”

APA Sustaining Places Task Force, 2012



What are the Issues?

- New Challenges, New Topics
- Plan-making for a Changing World
- Systems, Not Silos
- Need for Standards and 21st Century Models



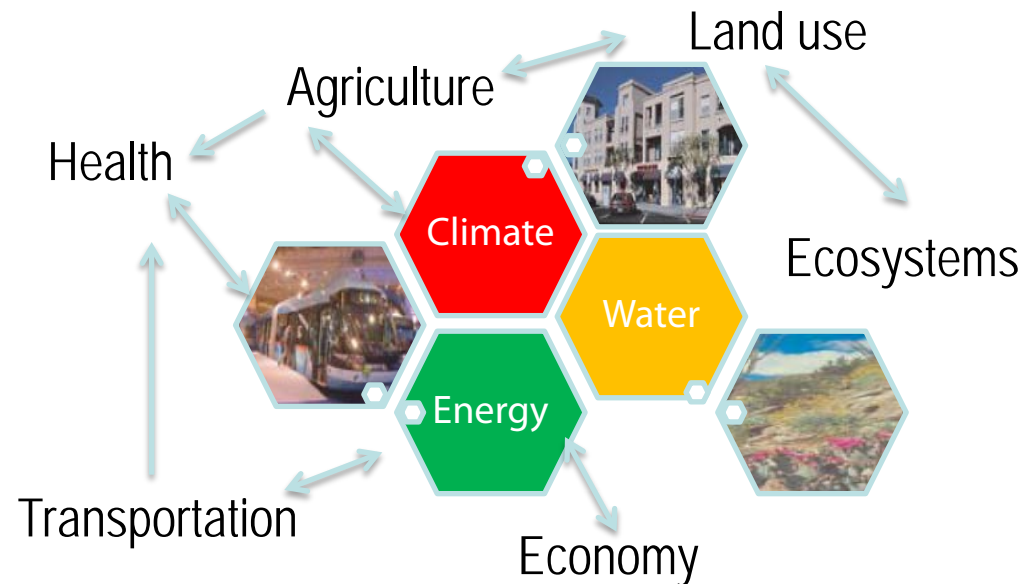
New Challenges, New Topics

- Energy
- Climate Change
- Resilience
- Hazard Mitigation
- Aging Population
- Social Equity
- Diversity
- Local Food Production
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction
- Health and Wellness



Plan-Making for a Changing World

- Future evolving & uncertain
- Plans respond to change strategically as circumstances demand
- Sources of instability include linkages among:
 - Climate
 - Water resources
 - Energy supply
 - Agriculture
 - Ecosystems
 - Economy
 - Human health
 - Natural hazards

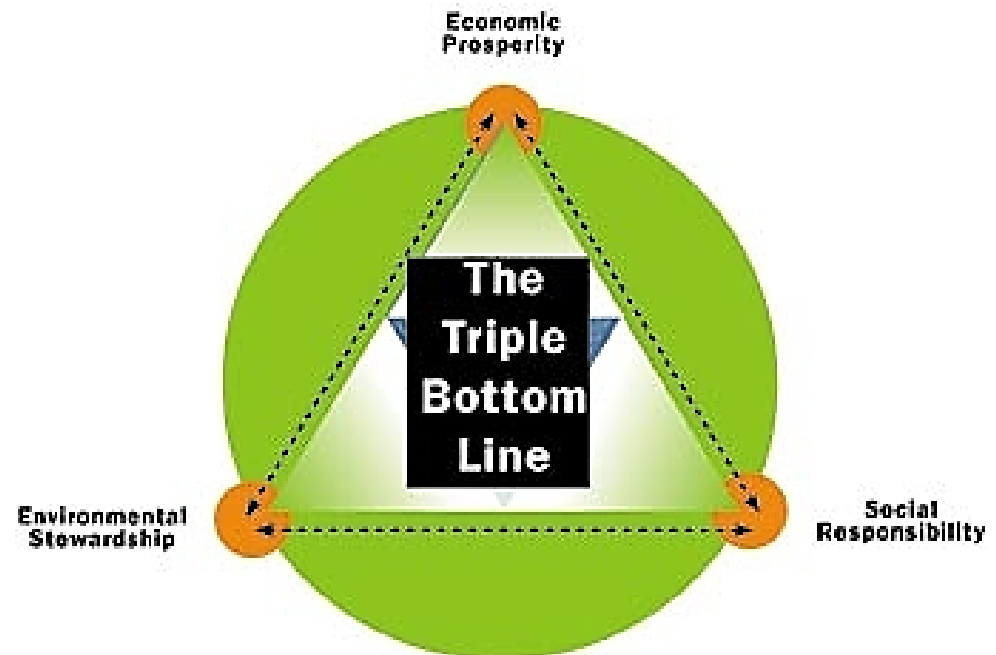




Systems, not Silos

Stronger linkage between related topics:

- Land Use
- Housing
- Transportation
- Economy & Finance
- Energy & Utilities
- Community Health & Safety
- Agriculture





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Need for Standards and 21st Century Models

UNCOMMONLY GREAT GOSHEN
Comprehensive Plan &
Community Vision 2025
Adopted October 7, 2014





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Why Focus on The Comprehensive Plan?

“As the leading policy document guiding the long-range development of local jurisdictions in the United States, the comprehensive plan plays a critical role in planning for sustainability.”

*Sustaining Places: Best Practices for Comprehensive Plans, APA PAS
Report, 2015*



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2. Background and the Standards



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Comprehensive Plan Standards for Sustaining Places

The ultimate aim is to help planners and the communities they serve realize the powerful potential of the comprehensive plan to sustain twenty-first century places.

American Planning Association, January 2015





Sustaining Places Background



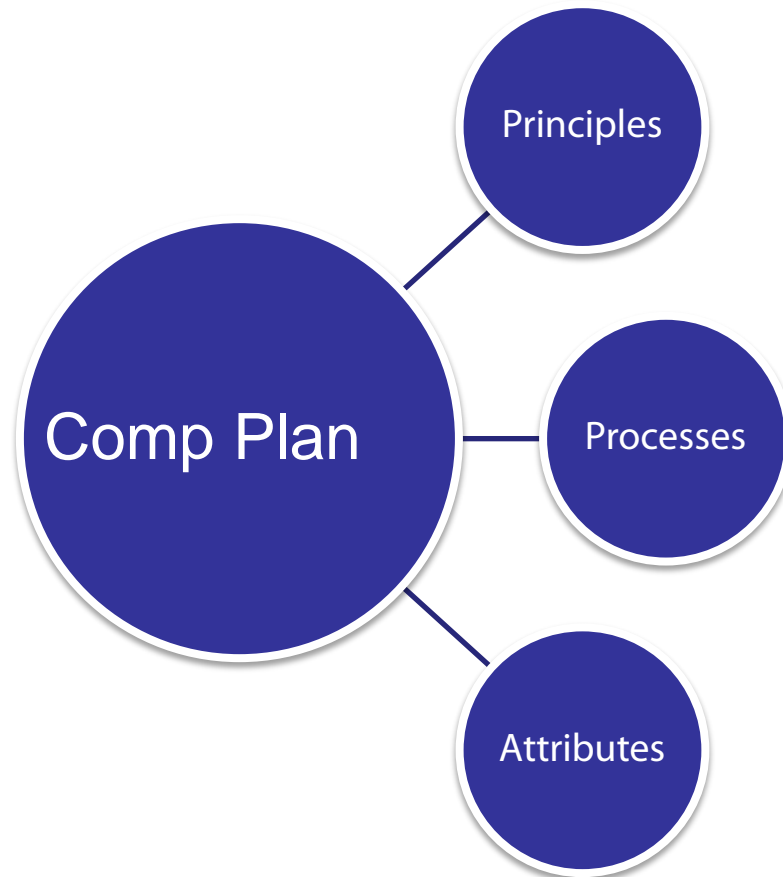


Pilot Communities

| Pilot Community | Population |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Savona, NY | 822 |
| Foxborough, MA | 16,865 |
| Wheeling, WV | 28,213 |
| Goshen, IN | 31,719 |
| Rock Island, IL | 39,018 |
| Auburn, WA | 70,180 |
| New Hanover County, NC | 202,677 |
| Oklahoma City, OK | 599,199 |
| Seattle, WA | 634,535 |
| Memphis/Shelby County, TN | 927,644 |



Comprehensive Plan Standards Framework





Comprehensive Plan Standards Framework

- **Principles:** *normative statements of intent* that underlie a plan's overall strategy, including its goals, objectives, policies, maps, and other content.
- **Processes:** *planning activities* that take place during the preparation of a comprehensive plan and define how it will be implemented.
- **Attributes:** *plan-making design standards* that shape the content and characteristics of comprehensive plans.
- **Best Practices:** *planning action tools* that activate the principles, processes, and attributes.



Plan Principles

1. Livable Built Environment
2. Harmony with Nature
3. Resilient Economy
4. Interwoven Equity
5. Healthy Community
6. Responsible Regionalism



1. Livable Built Environment

Ensure that all elements of the built environment, including land use, transportation, housing, energy, and infrastructure, work together to provide sustainable, green places for living, working, and recreation, with a high quality of life.





Livable Built Environment: Best Practices

1.1 Plan for multi-modal transportation.

1.7 Encourage design standards appropriate to the community context.

1.2 Plan for transit-oriented development.

1.8 Provide accessible public facilities and spaces.

1.3 Coordinate regional transportation investments with job clusters.

1.9 Conserve and reuse historic resources.

1.4 Provide complete streets serving multiple functions.

1.10 Implement green building design and energy conservation.

1.5 Plan for mixed land-use patterns that are walkable and bikeable.

1.11 Discourage development in hazard zones.

1.6 Plan for infill development.



2. Harmony with Nature

Ensure that the contributions of natural resources to human well-being are explicitly recognized and valued and that maintaining their health is a primary objective.





Harmony with Nature: Best Practices

2.1 Restore, connect, and protect natural habitats and sensitive lands.

2.6 Encourage climate change adaptation.

2.2 Plan for the provision and protection of green infrastructure.

2.7 Provide for renewable energy use.

2.3 Encourage development that respects natural topography.

2.8 Provide for solid waste reduction.

2.4 Enact policies to reduce carbon footprints.

2.9 Encourage water conservation and plan for a lasting water supply.

2.5 Comply with state and local air quality standards.

2.10 Protect and manage streams, watersheds, and floodplains.



3. Resilient Economy

Ensure that the community is prepared to deal with both positive and negative changes in its economic health and to initiate sustainable urban development and redevelopment strategies that foster green business growth and build reliance on local assets.



Photo: WRT



Resilient Economy: Best Practices

3.1 Provide the physical capacity for economic growth.

3.5 Encourage community-based economic development and revitalization.

3.2 Plan for a balanced land-use mix for fiscal sustainability.

3.6 Provide and maintain infrastructure capacity in line with growth or decline demands.

3.3 Plan for transportation access to employment centers.

3.7 Plan for post-disaster economic recovery.

3.4 Promote green businesses and jobs.



4. Interwoven Equity

Ensure fairness and equity in providing for the housing, services, health, safety, and livelihood needs of all citizens and groups.



Photo: City of Austin



Interwoven Equity: Best Practices

4.1 Provide a range of housing types.

4.6 Upgrade infrastructure and facilities in older and substandard areas.

4.2 Plan for a jobs/housing balance.

4.7 Plan for workforce diversity and development.

4.3 Plan for the physical, environmental, and economic improvement of at-risk, distressed, and disadvantaged neighborhoods.

4.8 Protect vulnerable populations from natural hazards.

4.4 Plan for improved health and safety for at-risk populations.

4.9 Promote environmental justice.

4.5 Provide accessible, quality public services, facilities, and health care to minority and low-income populations.



5. Healthy Community

Ensure that public health needs are recognized and addressed through provisions for healthy foods, physical activity, access to recreation, health care, environmental justice, and safe neighborhoods.



Photo: City of Austin



Photo: East Donegal



Healthy Community: Best Practices

5.1 Reduce exposure to toxins and pollutants in the natural and built environment.

5.5 Provide accessible parks, recreation facilities, greenways, and open space near all neighborhoods.

5.2 Plan for increased public safety through reduction of crime and injuries.

5.6 Plan for access to healthy, locally-grown foods for all neighborhoods.

5.3 Plan for the mitigation and redevelopment of brownfields for productive uses.

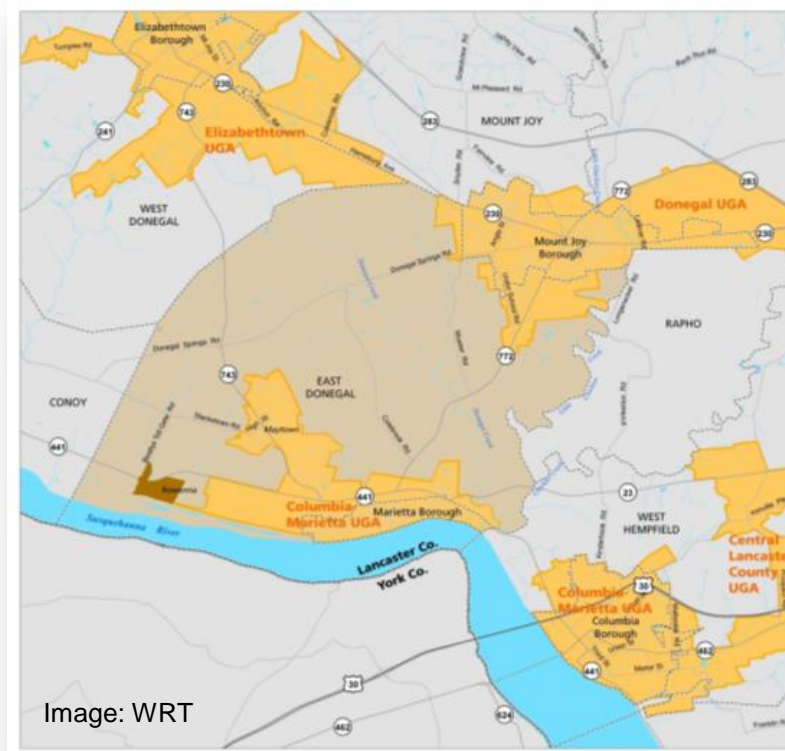
5.7 Plan for equitable access to health care providers, schools, public safety facilities, and arts and cultural facilities.

5.4 Plan for physical activity and healthy lifestyles.



6. Responsible Regionalism

Ensure that all local proposals account for, connect with, and support the plans of adjacent jurisdictions and the surrounding region.





Responsible Regionalism: Best Practices

6.1 Coordinate local land use plans with regional transportation investments.

6.6 Enhance connections between local activity centers and regional destinations.

6.2 Coordinate local and regional housing plan goals.

6.7 Coordinate local and regional population and economic projections.

6.3 Coordinate local open space plans with regional green infrastructure plans.

6.8 Include regional development visions and plans in local planning scenarios.

6.4 Delineate designated growth areas that are served by transit.

6.9 Encourage consistency between local capital improvement programs and regional infrastructure priorities.

6.5 Promote regional cooperation and sharing of resources.



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Plan Processes

7. Authentic Participation

8. Accountable Implementation



7. Authentic Participation

Ensure that the planning process actively involves all segments of the community in analyzing issues, generating visions, developing plans, and monitoring outcomes.



Photos: City of Seattle



Authentic Participation: Best Practices

7.1 Engage stakeholders at all stages of the planning process.

7.5 Provide ongoing and understandable information for all participants.

7.2 Seek diverse participation in the planning process.

7.6 Use a variety of communications channels to inform and involve the community.

7.3 Promote leadership development in disadvantaged communities during the planning process.

7.7 Continue to engage the public after the comprehensive plan is adopted.

7.4 Develop alternative scenarios of the future.



8. Accountable Implementation

Ensure that responsibilities for carrying out the plan are clearly stated, along with metrics for evaluating progress in achieving desired outcomes.

| SCENARIO PERFORMANCE | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|---------|
| | A | B | C |
| NEW JOBS ADDED (SAME IN ALL SCENARIOS) ----- | | | 172,000 |
| NEW RESIDENTS ADDED (SAME IN ALL SCENARIOS) ----- | | | 312,000 |
| | A | B | C |
| COST OF CITY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE (ANNUAL IN MILLIONS) ----- | 853M | 806M | 778M |
| MORE/LESS AUTOMOBILE EXPENSE (PER HOUSEHOLD PER MONTH) ----- | +36 | 6 | -53 |
| MORE/LESS TIME SPENT IN VEHICLE (HOURS PER PERSON PER MONTH) ----- | +7.5 | -2 | 5.5 |
| ADDITIONAL VEHICLE WRECKS (PER 1,000 PEOPLE PER YEAR) ----- | 7 | 4.6 | 1.3 |
| PUBLIC SAFETY OPERATIONS COSTS (PER YEAR IN MILLIONS) ----- | 404M | 385M | 300M |
| ROAD MAINTENANCE COSTS (PER YEAR IN MILLIONS) ----- | 58M | 53M | 49M |
| UTILITIES OPERATIONS COSTS (PER YEAR IN MILLIONS) ----- | 208M | 186M | 189M |
| NEW DEVELOPED SQUARE MILES ----- | 195 | 139 | 76 |
| PERCENT OF NEW HOMES THAT ARE SINGLE-FAMILY ----- | 78% | 70% | 67% |
| NEW ROADS BUILT (LANE MILES) ----- | 4k | 3k | 2k |
| INFILL HOUSING (NEW HOMES IN EXISTING NEIGHBORHOODS) ----- | 15k | 31k | 64k |
| INCREASE IN ABANDONED HOMES ----- | 8.9k | 3.9k | 0 |
| INFILL JOBS (NEW JOBS IN EXISTING ESTABLISHED AREAS) ----- | 71.5k | 69.3k | 105.5k |
| CHANGE IN DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (AS PART OF DAILY ROUTINE) ----- | 9% | 60% | 139% |
| WALKING, BICYCLING, OR TRANSIT USAGE (PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2010) ----- | 3% | 5.5% | 8% |
| WATER USE FOR LANDSCAPING (GAL/DAY PER HOUSEHOLD) ----- | 348 | 179 | 158 |
| INCREASE IN CARBON EMISSIONS (OVER TODAY) ----- | 57% | 46% | 44% |

Image: City of Oklahoma City



Accountable Implementation: Best Practices

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8.1 Indicate specific actions for implementation. | 8.5 Identify funding sources for plan implementation. |
| 8.2 Connect plan implementation to the capital planning process. | 8.6 Establish implementation indicators, benchmarks, and targets. |
| 8.3 Connect plan implementation to the annual budgeting process. | 8.7 Regularly evaluate and report on implementation progress. |
| 8.4 Establish interagency and organizational cooperation. | 8.8 Adjust the plan as necessary based on the evaluation. |



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Plan Attributes

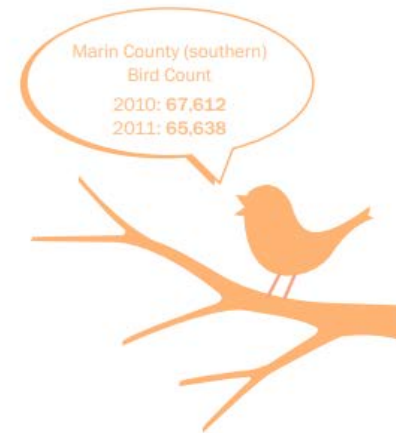
9. Consistent Content

10. Coordinated Characteristics



9. Consistent Content

Ensure that the plan contains a consistent set of visions, goals, policies, objectives, and actions that are based on evidence about community conditions, major issues, and impacts.



JUST THE FACTS

- Marin County's ecological footprint (i.e., the amount of land and sea needed to produce the resources to support one person) is estimated to be about 27 global acres per person. The U.S. average is about 20 acres, and the world average is 5.4 acres.¹
- Marin County generates more garbage per person than any other county in the U.S.²
- The 2012 annual Christmas bird count for southern Marin identified 72,624 birds and 185 different species in a single day - including 2,672 birds and 85 different species counted in Mill Valley and Mill Valley Marsh.³



Consistent Content: Best Practices

9.1 Assess strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

9.5 Set objectives in support of the goals.

9.2 Establish a fact base.

9.6 Set policies to guide decision-making.

9.3. Develop a vision of the future.

9.7 Define actions to carry out the plan.

9.4 Set goals in support of the vision.

9.8 Use clear and compelling features to present the plan.



10. Coordinated Characteristics

Ensure that the plan includes creative and innovative strategies and recommendations and coordinates them internally with each other, vertically with federal and state requirements, and horizontally with plans of adjacent jurisdictions.

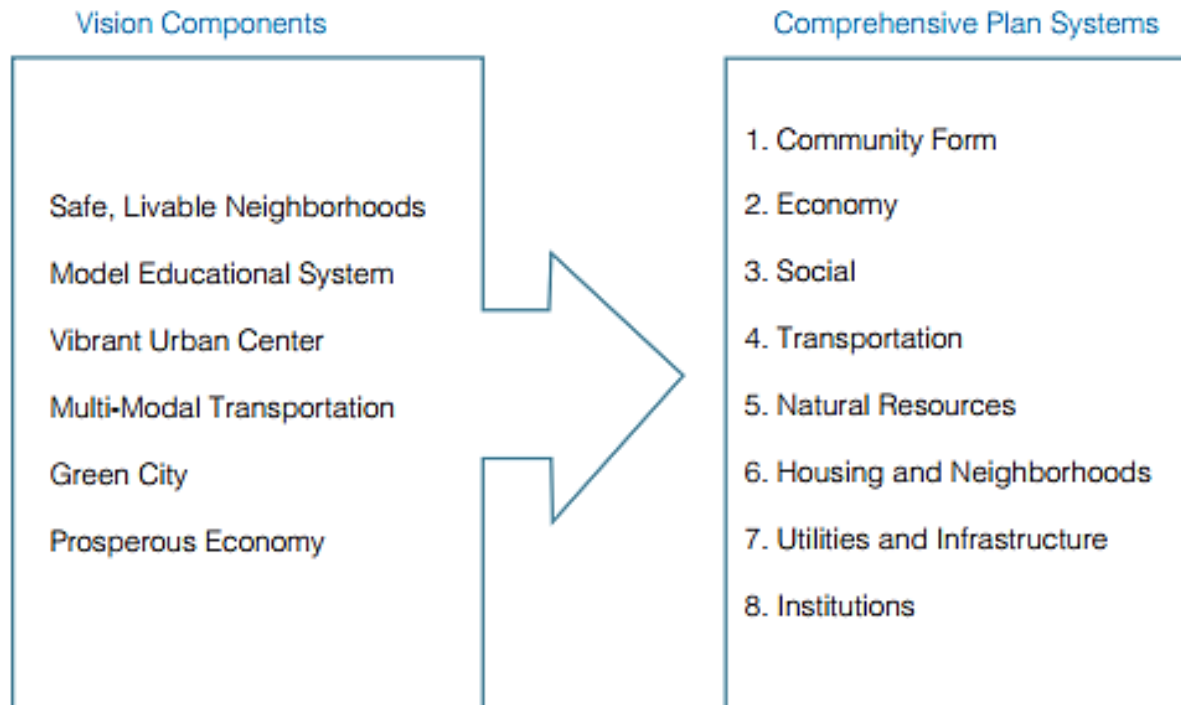


Image: City of Albany

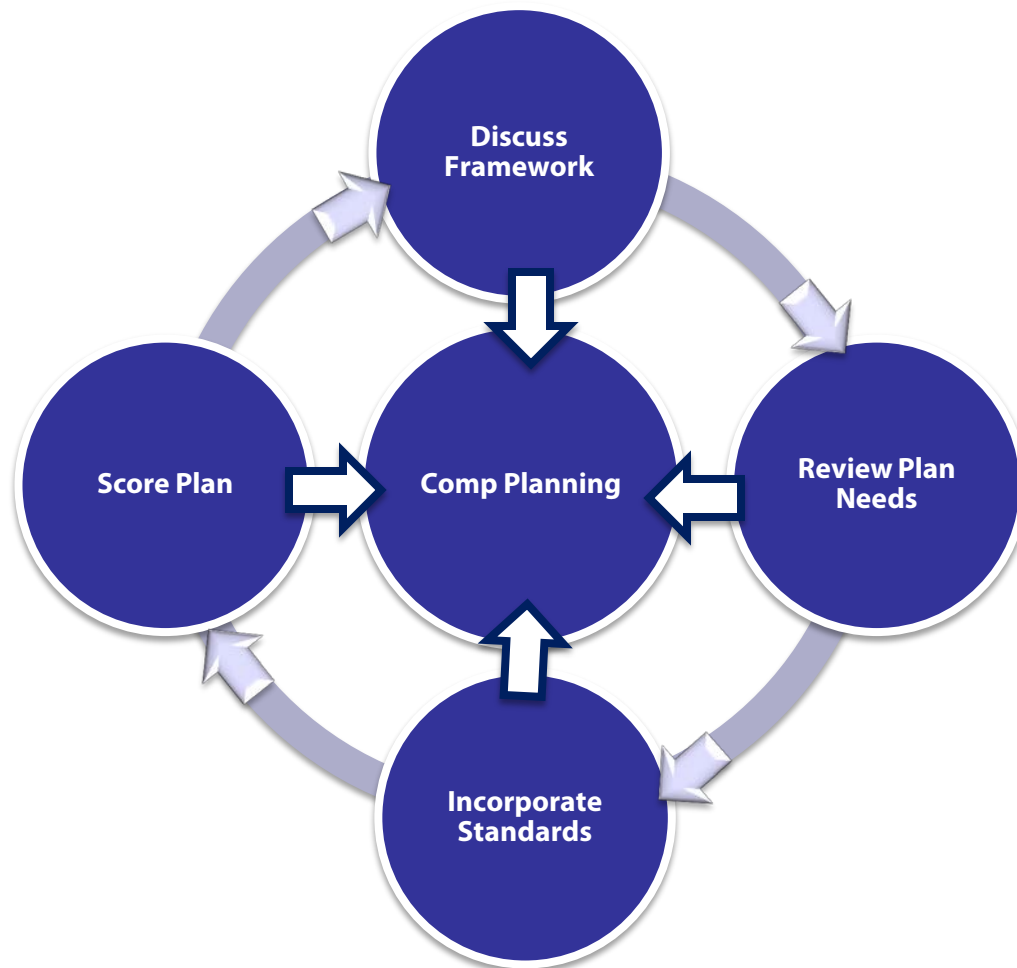


Coordinated Characteristics: Best Practices

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10.1 Be comprehensive in the plan's coverage. | 10.6 Coordinate with the plans of other jurisdictions and levels of government. |
| 10.2 Integrate the plan with other local plans and programs. | 10.7 Comply with applicable laws and mandates. |
| 10.3 Be innovative in the plan's approach. | 10.8 Be transparent in the plan's substance. |
| 10.4 Be persuasive in the plan's communications. | 10.9 Use plan formats that go beyond paper. |
| 10.5 Be consistent across plan components. | |



Applying the Plan Standards





Plan Scoring System

Procedure to measure a comprehensive plan against a national standard

Establishes scoring criteria for best practices

- Not Applicable
- Not Present (0 points)
- Low (1 point)
- Medium (2 points)
- High (3 points)

APPENDIX C: SCORING MATRIX

| TOTAL SCORES | NOTES |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| PRINCIPLES | |
| 1. LIVABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT | |
| 2. HARMONY WITH NATURE | |
| 3. RESILIENT ECONOMY | |
| 4. INTERWOVEN EQUITY | |
| 5. HEALTHY COMMUNITY | |
| 6. RESPONSIBLE REGIONALISM | |
| I. TOTAL PRINCIPLES SCORE (ADD 1-6) | |
| PROCESSES | |
| 7. AUTHENTIC PARTICIPATION | |
| 8. ACCOUNTABLE IMPLEMENTATION | |
| II. TOTAL PROCESSES SCORE (ADD 7 AND 8) | |
| ATTRIBUTES | |
| 9. CONSISTENT CONTENT | |
| 10. COORDINATED CHARACTERISTICS | |
| III. TOTAL ATTRIBUTES SCORE (ADD 9 AND 10) | |
| TOTAL PLAN SCORE (ADD I, II, AND III) | |
| TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE <i>Count the number of applicable practices and multiply by 3. The maximum is 255 points (if all practices are applicable).</i> | |
| PLAN SCORE PERCENTAGE <i>(Total Plan Score/Total Points Available)</i> | |
| Level of Achievement (based on Plan Score Percentage) | |
| Designated: 70-79% | |
| Silver: 80-89% | |
| Gold: 90-100% | |



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For more info:
www.planning.org/sustainingplaces/compplanstandards/





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3. Goshen Case Study



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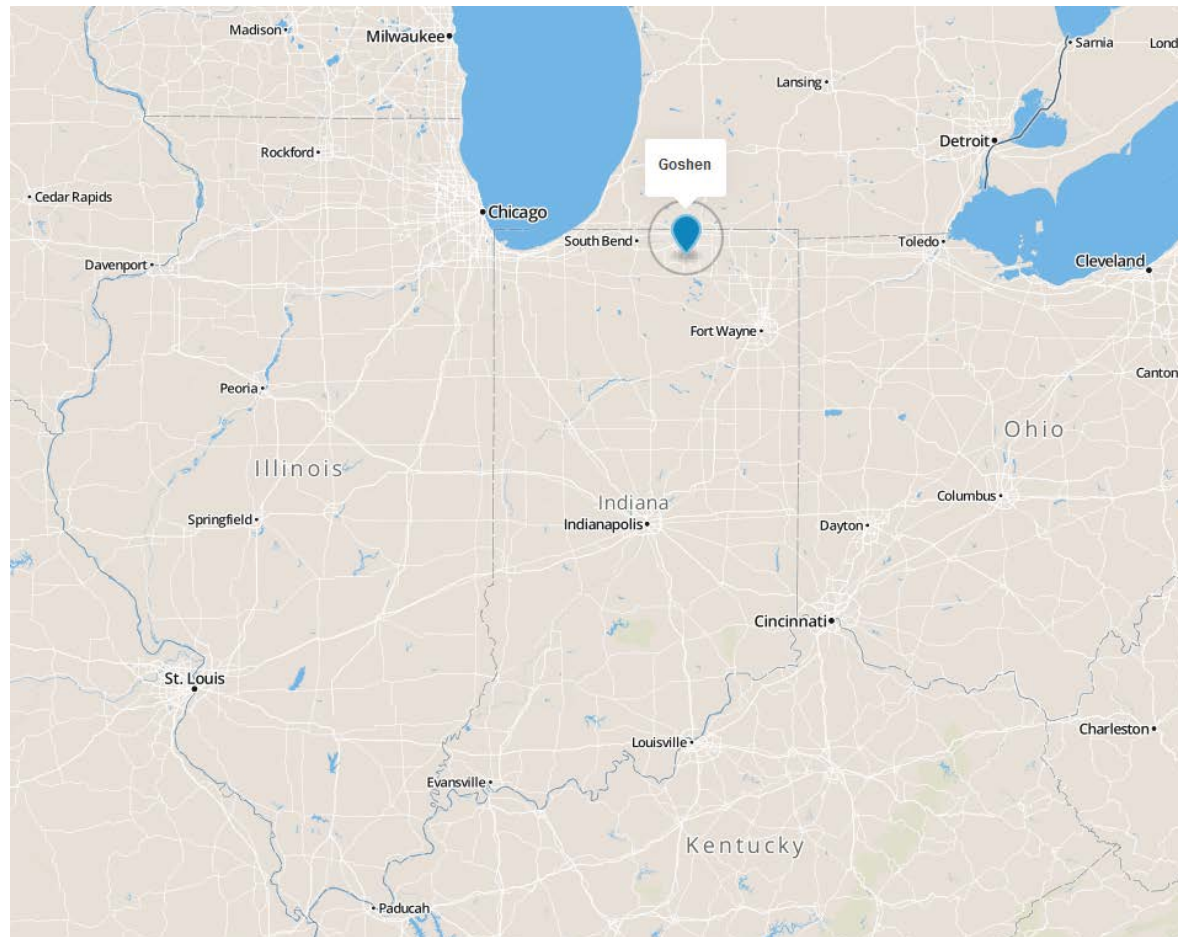
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COMMON GOOD. UNCOMMONLY GREAT.



Goshen, Indiana



- North Central Indiana
- Pop. 32,000
- Demographically diverse
- Manufacturing & agrarian heritage
- Goshen College
- Solid community support for sustainability



Planning Process

- Update of the Comprehensive Plan & Community Vision: 2004-2013
- Four topic-driven public meetings
 - Quality of Life
 - Economic Development & Redevelopment
 - People, Neighborhoods & Housing
 - Land Use, Transportation & Infrastructure
- Significant integration of APA standards in public participation



People, Neighborhoods & Housing Public Meeting



Using the Standards

- Scored 2004 Comprehensive Plan against the standards
- Retained standards with medium and high scoring
- Identified missing and weak standards
 - Integrated these into public participation for comment
- Facilitated discussions on the standards
 - Green Drinks
 - Sound of the Environment



Coordinated by Community Sustainability Project, Inc., Goshen, Ind.



Scoring the 2004 Plan

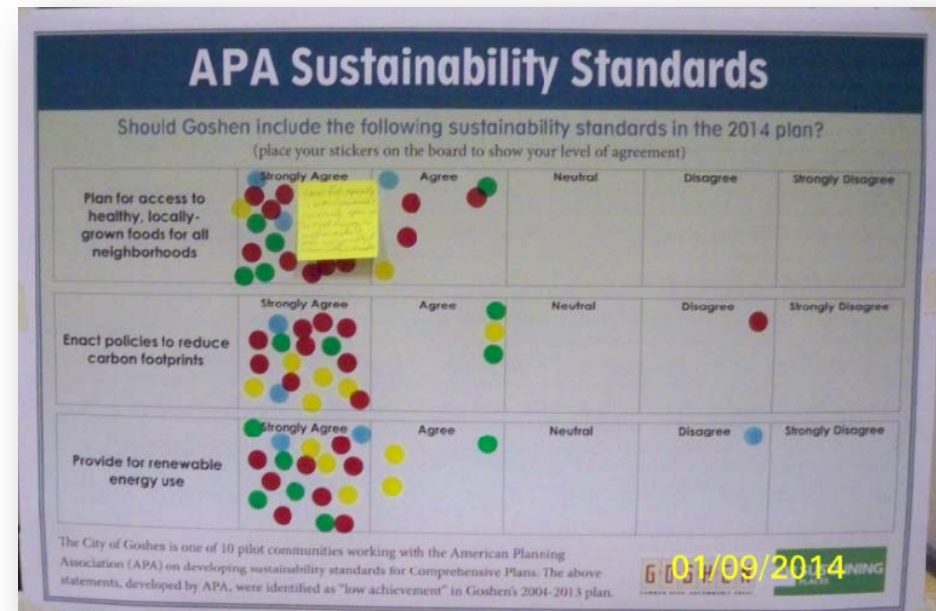
| Classification | No. | % of Total |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Not Present | 7 | 13.2% |
| Not Applicable | 2 | 3.8% |
| Low Achievement | 17 | 32.1% |
| Medium Achievement | 9 | 17.0% |
| High Achievement | 18 | 34.0% |
| Total | 53 | - |

- Uneven performance across categories
- 71% high achievement in Healthy Community
- 0% high achievement in Responsible Regionalism



Public Participation

- Organized “not present” and “low achievement” standards into one of the four public meetings
- Asked if citizens agreed/disagreed with the standards
- Provided supplemental explanations on the standards



APA Standards Board
Quality of Life Public Meeting



Improving Low Achievement Standards:

“Plan for access to healthy, locally grown foods for all neighborhoods”

(Healthy Community)



Photo by: Branden Beachy

3. Provide information to neighborhood associations about the resources available to address instances of neighbor to neighbor conflict and the process to report cases of alleged discrimination
4. Support neighborhood improvement efforts that require intentional community engagement (e.g., public arts, neighborhood gardens, clean-up efforts, neighborhood boards and other initiatives)
5. Provide opportunities for neighborhood associations to connect with community-wide initiatives

N-5: Support the development of local food systems

Locally grown foods are produced in close proximity to consumers in both geographic distance and supply chain. Though there is no standard definition of a local geographic range, this can encompass sources from backyards and community gardens to farms within the region or state. The development of local food systems provides positive social, environmental and economic impacts for the community.

1. Promote community gardens
2. Encourage neighborhood associations to develop community gardens
3. Raise awareness of Purdue Extension resources, county and state initiatives and other organizations that support local food systems
4. Encourage the integration of edible landscaping

5. Explore the possibility of a city orchard and planting of fruit trees
6. Work collaboratively with neighboring jurisdictions to conserve agricultural land
7. Encourage businesses, programs and uses that support local food production

N-6: Encourage compact and connected residential development

Goshen will encourage new and infill residential development that uses land efficiently. The City will work to improve connectivity in existing neighborhoods and newly-developed neighborhoods.

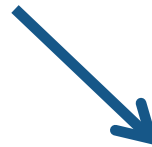
1. Promote and encourage resident and business participation in the City's sidewalk program
2. Promote mixed-use residential and commercial development
3. Combine development decisions with planning strategies for transportation, community services and utility capacity
4. Promote infill residential development when feasible
5. Identify strategies to encourage increased density in select districts
6. Identify opportunities for connections and expansion in residential neighborhoods of the Maple City Greenway trail network
7. Plan development that improves safety, promotes active lifestyles and enhances quality of life



Improving Low Achievement Standards:

"Enact policies to reduce carbon footprint"

(Harmony with Nature)



NE-8: Encourage sustainable living and business practices

Sustainable cities meet the needs of the present generation, without compromising the needs of future generations. The City can play an important role in achieving greater sustainability and reducing pollution in communities. The maintenance of City buildings represents an area in which the City can improve its own operations and model behavior for residents and the private sector.

1. Evaluate the City's conservation programs and policies, internal and external
2. Evaluate and encourage the use of renewable energy sources (solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal, biomass, conservation, etc.)
3. Develop and market informational resources for sustainable living and business practices including but not limited to construction, waste reduction, recycling, reuse, health and safety

E-7: Promote sustainable practices in business and industry

Businesses with green practices have a positive impact on both the environment and the community. Green business practices go beyond regulations to demonstrate a strong commitment to a healthy and sustainable future. The City will encourage businesses to adopt and implement practices that minimize negative environmental impacts.

1. Encourage responsible use of natural resources
2. Identify and remedy sources of industrial waste and pollution
3. Encourage the use of renewable energy resources
4. Support local efforts to reduce waste in manufacturing and other sectors
5. Emphasize the economic benefits of environmental integrity
6. Promote Chamber and other organizations that encourage sustainable business practices



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4. New Hanover County Case Study



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New Hanover County





Planning Initiatives:

Regional

- FOCUS
- Cape Fear Commutes 2040

County

- Economic Targeting Initiative
- Plan NHC
- Cape Fear Public Utility Authority Long Range Plan

City

- Create Wilmington



APA Standards/Framework:

1. Livable Built Environment
2. Harmony with Nature
3. Resilient Economy
4. Interwoven Equity
5. Healthy Community
6. Responsible Regionalism



Framework for Policies:

1. Six Theme Committees
2. 161 Individual Volunteers
3. 816 Hours = over 20 weeks of full time work!
4. 25 Draft Policies
5. 140 Action Steps



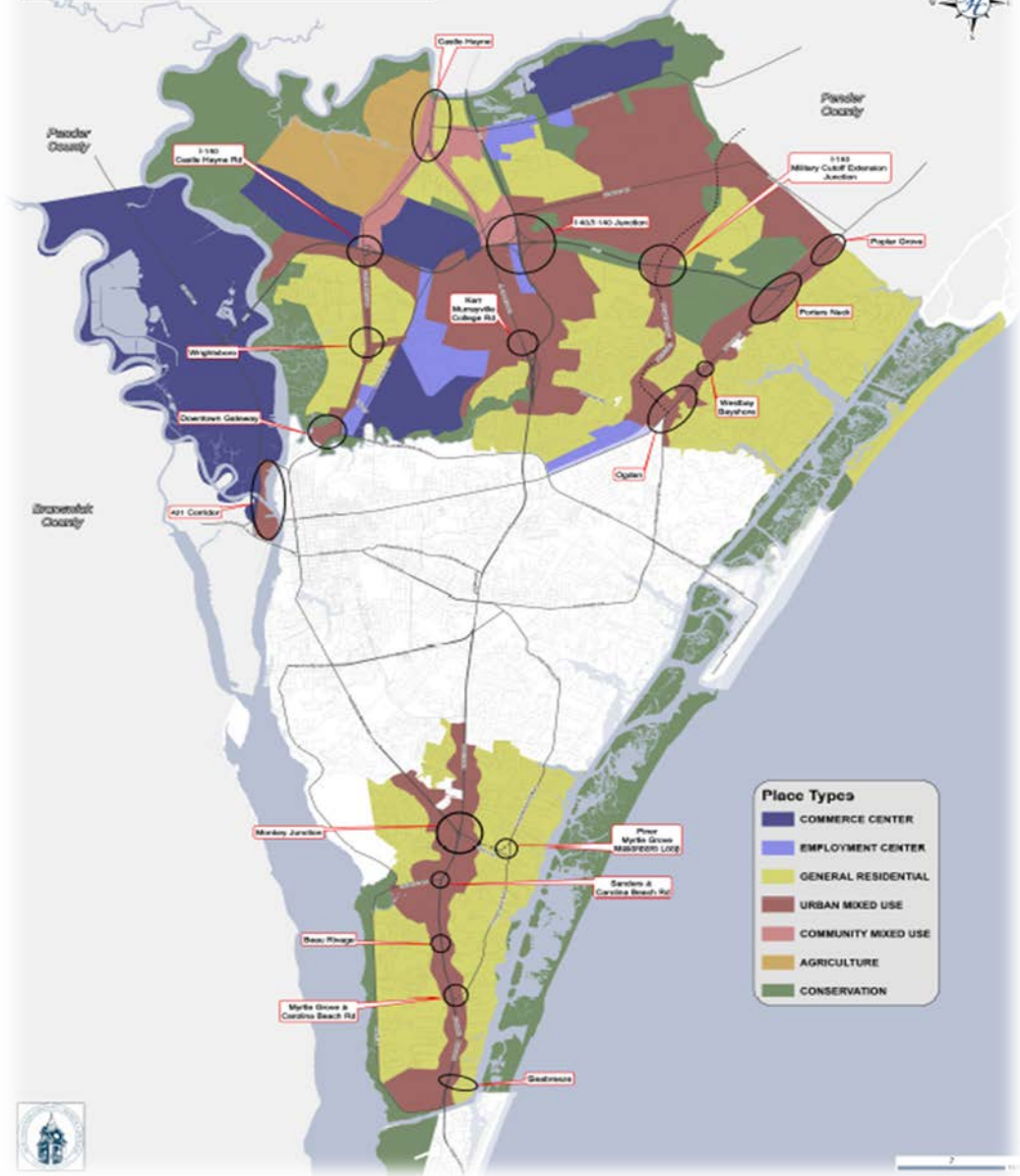
Citizen Advisory Committee:

- 12 members
- 4 meetings
- 20 Goals
- 65 Implementation Strategies





NHC Draft Future Land Use Map





URBAN MIXED USE



DEFINITION

This placetype provides access to local office and retail uses. These areas are often auto-oriented, as they are most commonly located on major and minor arterial roadways, but promoting a more multi-modal environment is critical. The use of sidewalks, wide outside lanes, and bus routes provide opportunities for multi-modal access. Additionally, the use of minimal setbacks and parking behind

the buildings can also encourage a less automobile-dominated environment than what is currently in place. The flow of traffic must be a primary decision in the location and mitigation of new development, as the roadways that serve these places are often primary beach access routes. Reducing curb cuts and access from arterials should therefore be employed as feasible.

AREAS OF APPLICABILITY:

- Monkey Junction
- Porters Neck

DESIRED USES

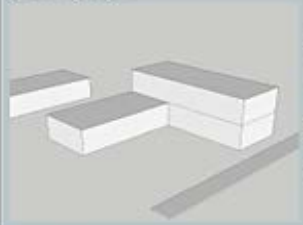
- Types of Uses / Projects**
- Commercial
 - Office
 - Mixed Use
 - Multi-family Residential



- Zoning Categories**
- B-1 and B-2
 - O&I
 - SC
 - I-1

DEVELOPMENT INTENSITY

Building Height



| Use | Number of Stories | Ideal Density |
|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Office | 1-3 | FAR 0.5 - 1.5 |
| Retail | 1 | FAR 0.25 - 0.5 |
| Planned Development | 1-3 | FAR 0.5 - 2.0 |
| Multi-Family Residential | 1-3 | 2-6 du/acre |

Urban Design



- Street Patterns:**
Linear arterial
- Block Length:**
400 - 1000 ft
- Setbacks:**
Residential: 25-50 feet
Non-residential: 35-50 feet
- Pedestrian Amenities:**
Sidewalks, Crosswalks, Pedestrian malls, Plazas

MODE CHOICES

Transportation Infrastructure



3-5 ft Sidewalks (some areas)
Pedestrian malls & paths
Crosswalks



Arterial, Collector & Local Roads
2-4 Travel Lanes
Off-Street & Garage Parking
Vallet Services (some areas)



Limited Fixed-Route Transit
1-2 Routes
1 hr Headway



Limited through-streets
Bike racks
Repair shops



Lessons Learned:

- APA Standards helped provide a framework for meaningful conversations.
- Remain flexible in your approach.
- Create incremental successes and adoption phases to keep momentum.



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5. Austin Case Study



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Imagine Austin: Principles & Implementation





Welcome to Austin

- Why is Austin growing?
- What Imagine Austin says about sustainability?
- How is Imagine Austin being implemented?





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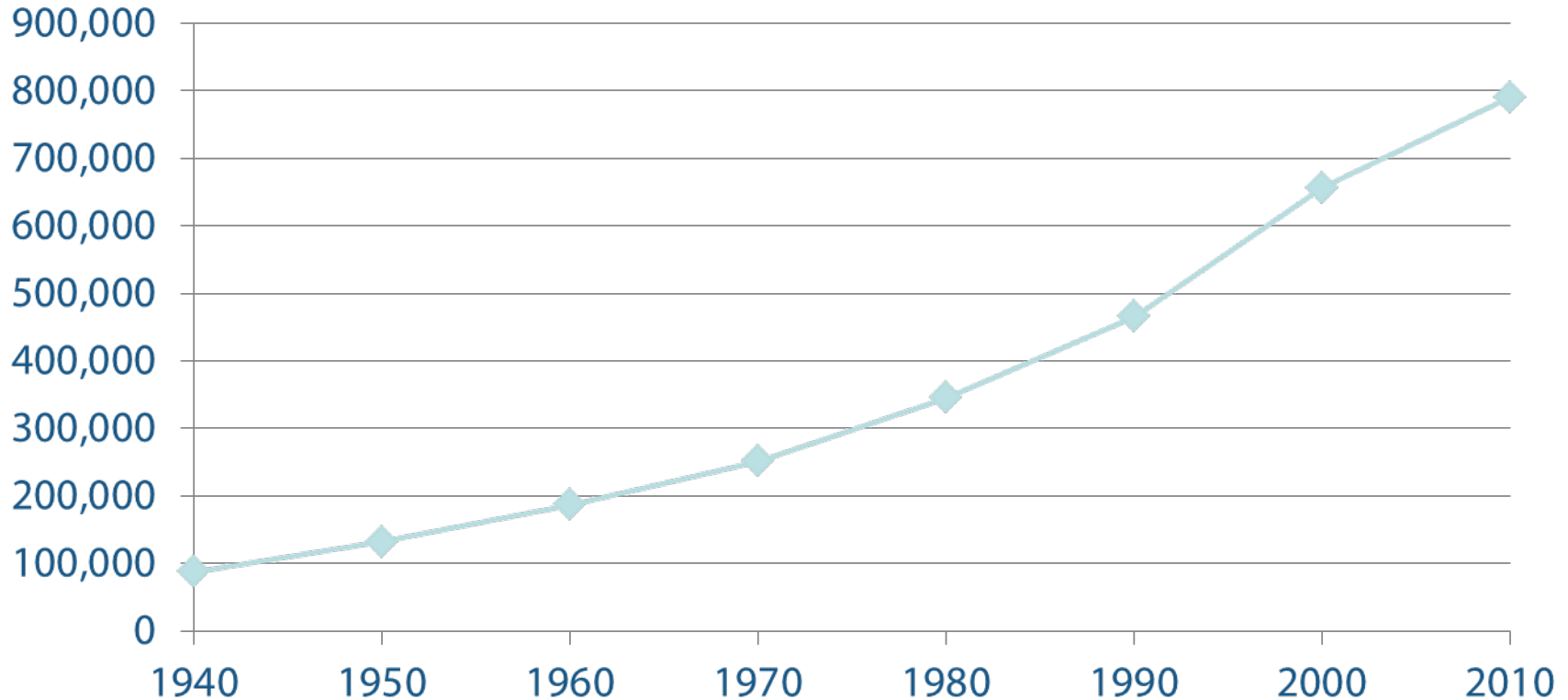
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City of Austin Population 1940-2010



2015: 890,491 **2039: ~1,540,000**
~ 110 people a day move to Central Texas
ULI: Grow by >30% in 15 years



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Austin has changed



AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER, AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY, 002001A

Congress Avenue--1913



Congress Avenue--2015



Council's Goals

Community Engagement

- Community Shapes the Plan

Sustainability

- Environment, Economy, and Equity
- What Does Sustainability Mean for Austin?

Implementation

- Translating Vision and Goals into Action



About Sustainability



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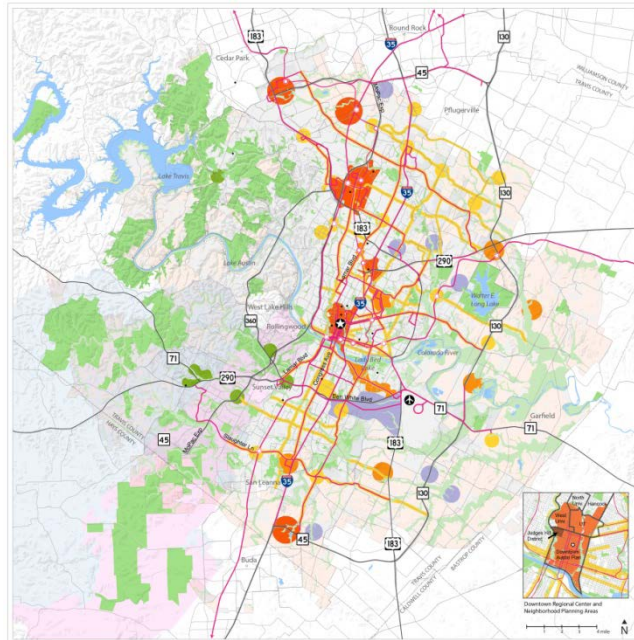
NATURAL AND
SUSTAINABLE



CREATIVE



VALUES AND
RESPECTS PEOPLE



PROSPEROUS



EDUCATED



MOBILE AND
INTERCONNECTED



About Sustainability



A Vision for Austin's Future

- A Beacon of Sustainability
- Social equity
- Economic opportunity
- Diversity and creativity
- Community needs & values
- Austin's greatest asset is its people
- Determined to see vision become reality



About Sustainable Communities

- Austin will be livable, healthy, safe, and affordable
- Promote physical activity, community engagement, and inclusion
- Ensure that amenities and services are easily accessible to all
- Contribute to Austin's unique spirit





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Investing in Sustainable Communities





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Investing in Sustainable Communities





Implementation Program

1. Community Engagement
2. Priority Programs
3. Regulations
4. Public Investment
5. Partnerships





Community Engagement

- Meetup
- Book Club
- Speaker Series
- Compact & Connected Training
- BookPeople
- Online Outreach
 - Website
 - Social Media
 - YouTube Channel

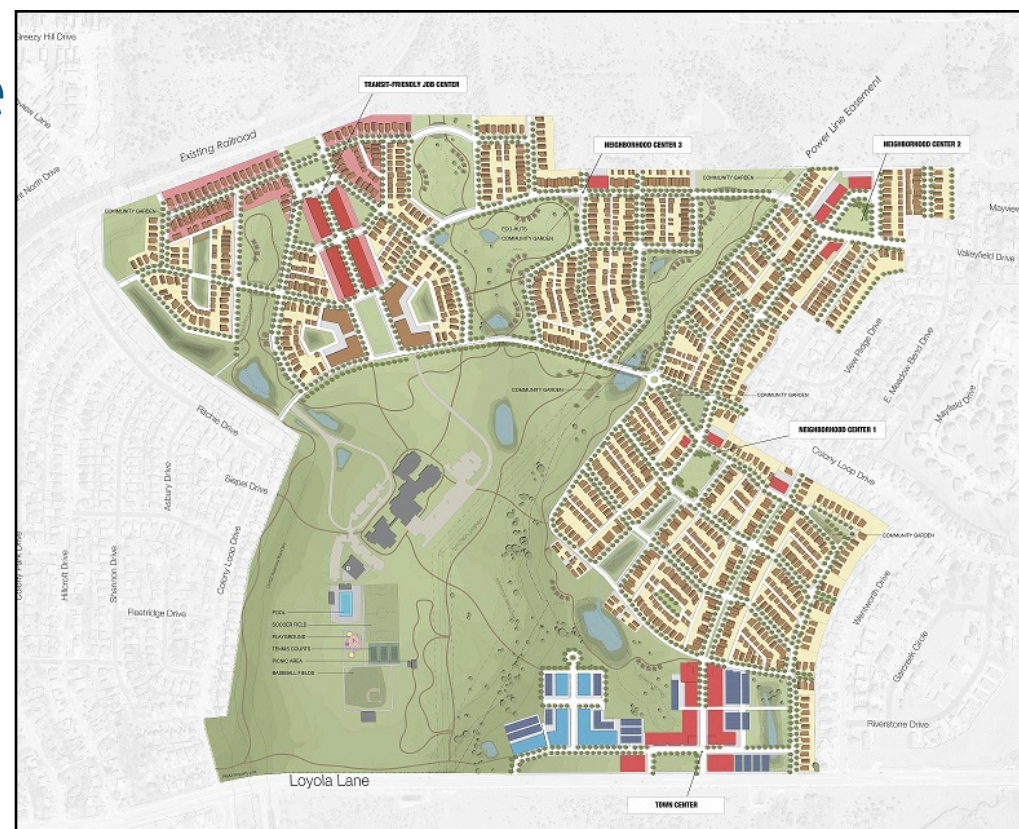


Over 70 copies have been sold at BookPeople.



Regulations

- Land Development Code Revision
 - Downtown Density Bonus
 - CodeNEXT
- Reviewing plans for alignment with Imagine Austin
- Cases for Rezoning



The Colony Park Master Plan



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Capital Investment

- Long-Range CIP Strategic Plan



Fiscal Year 2014-15

Long-Range

Capital Improvement Program

Strategic Plan

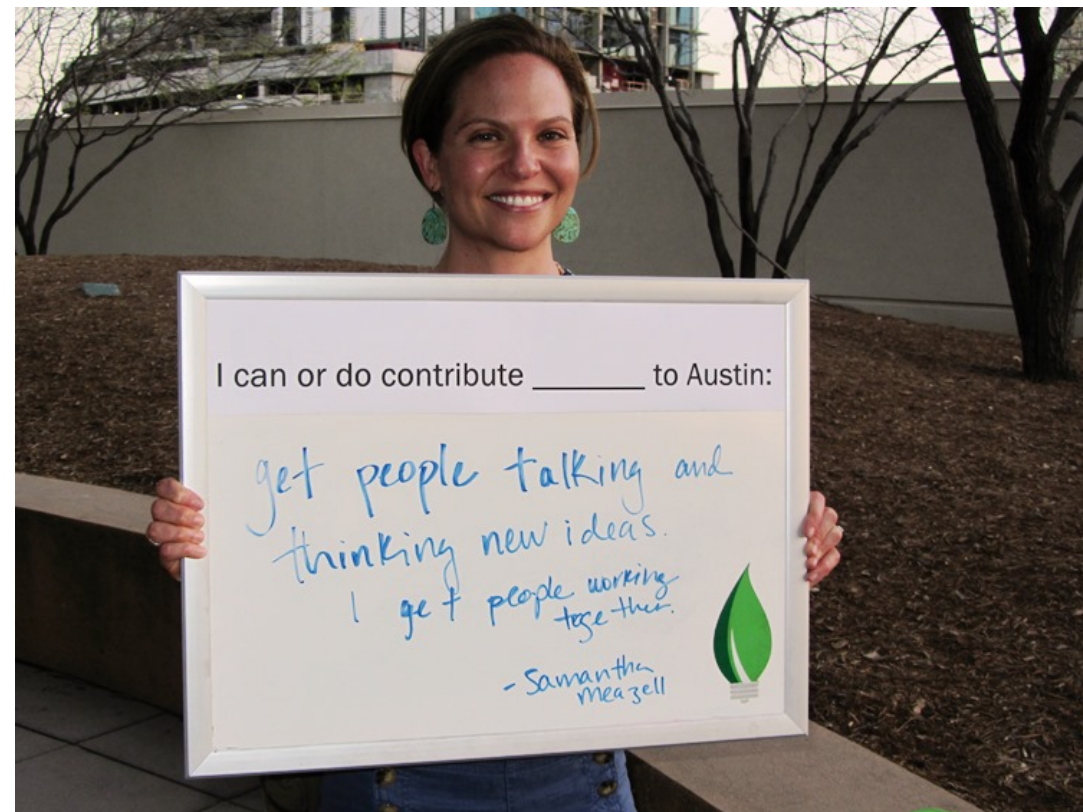


The Long-Range CIP Strategic Plan.



Partnerships

- Framework developed in August
- Coordinating with City departments
- Assessing City's capability to partner



A participant of the Imagine Austin Meetup understands the importance of partnerships.



Priority Programs

An internal alignment strategy that:

- Identifies major plan priorities
- Creates cross-department and interdisciplinary teams
- Identifies goals and expectations
- Integrates policies and actions
- Contains short and long-term steps
- Identifies initiatives, resources and partners
- Assigns responsibilities
- Measures success



Priority Programs



Priority Program #1:
Invest in C&C Austin

Priority Program #8:
Align Code

Priority Program #3:
Workforce Development

Priority Program #5:
Creative Economy

Priority Program #2:
Sustainable Water

Priority Program #4:
Green Infrastructure

Priority Program #6:
Household Affordability

Priority Program #7:
Healthy Austin



Invest in Compact & Connected

Accomplishments

- Adoption of Complete Streets policy
- Advancing Bicycle, Sidewalk and Urban Trails Master Plans
- Continued improvement of Project Connect including Rapid Bus



The City constructed 39 miles of new and improved bike lanes.



CodeNEXT

Accomplishments

- Diagnosis of City's land development code
- Community Character Manual
- Approach Alternatives
- Working groups formed to look at affordability, missing middle housing, and impediments to small business
- All priority program teams contributing



A CodeNEXT Community Character Event.



Green Infrastructure

Accomplishments

- 1800 acres of Water Quality Protection Lands
- Adoption of Urban Forest Plan
- Strategic partnering for land acquisition

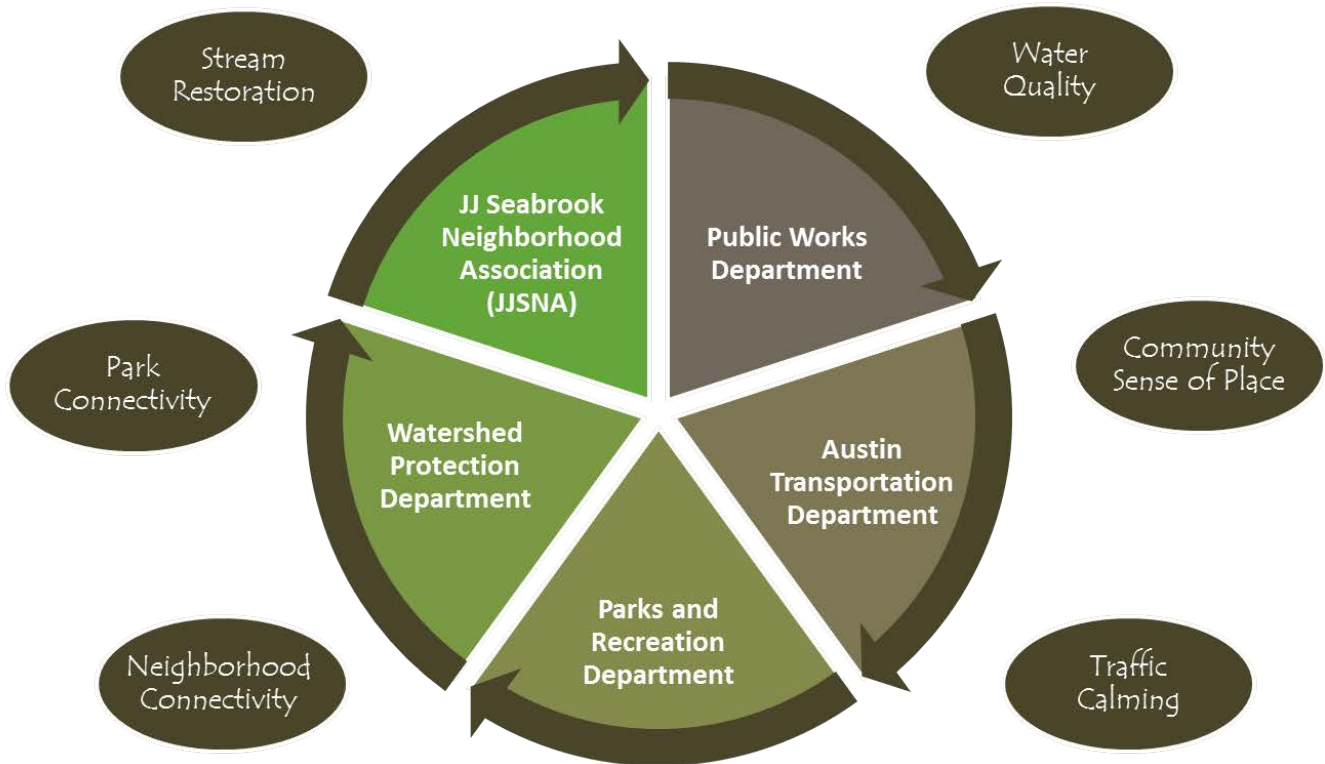


Nearly 1800 acres of Water Quality Protection Lands have been purchased using 2012 bond funds.



Lessons Learned

J.J. Seabrook Stream Restoration, Rain Garden, and Urban Trail Project





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IMAGINEAUSTON

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6. Final Thoughts

Q&A

