

Understanding the City's Planning Process





Each City's planning process is different; just as cities themselves are different.



What are some factors that make the approach to planning so variable?



Figure out how you can contribute to plans and the planning process.



How hard could it be? Everyone knows what a "plan" is...

Plans are policy documents (not regulatory tools) and typically do not have legal enforcement ability.

They provide a framework that helps guide future development and investment, and aid in decision-making.



Basic ingredients of most plans

- ☐ Establish a **vision** for where the community wants to be,
- ☐ Identify issues and trends that are affecting the community,
- ☐ Set goals and objectives for addressing those issues,
- ☐ Develop **policies and strategies** to achieve goals, and
- Create an implementation plan to measure and ensure progress.



But what you make with these same ingredients can take many different forms



Understanding the Different Types of Plans





What variables make plans different?



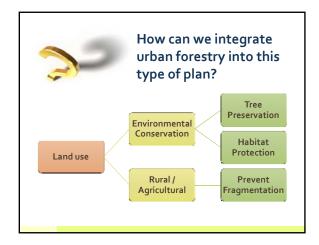
Figure out how you can integrate urban forestry into these plans.

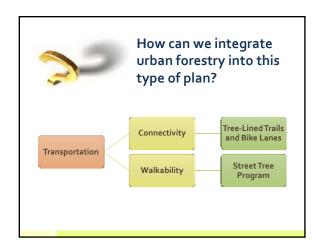


Comprehensive Plans

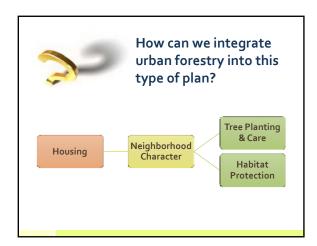
(a.k.a. General Plan or Comprehensive Master Plan)

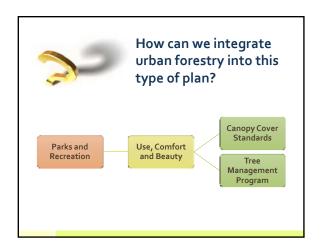
- ☐ Long term (20+ years)
- ☐ Applies to large geographic areas (regions, cities, towns)
- Broad scope
- ☐ Coordinates interrelated functions
 - Land use
 - Transportation
 - Utilities
 - Housing
 - Parks and Recreation







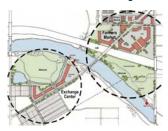






Example:

North Canadian River Strategic Action & Development Plan



Goal: Redesign Exchange Street to provide a safer, more inviting pedestrian linkage between the Farmers Market District, the River, and Stockyards City.

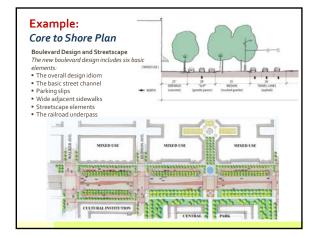
Incorporate street trees, pedestrian lighting, detached walkways, and other streetscape improvements into the Exchange Street right-of-way between the Farmers Market and the river to create a more visible connection and more inviting environment for pedestrians.



Master Plans

(a.k.a. Master Development Plans)

- ☐ Applies to a defined geographic area
- ☐ Involves physical planning, urban design, site design
- Assigns specific types of development and streets geographic area
- Usually includes illustrations, renderings, development guidelines





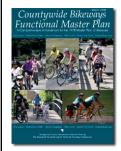
Special Area Plans

(Types include: Corridor Plans, Neighborhood Plans, District Plans, etc.)

- ☐ Framework consistent with other plan types (issues, goals, objectives, strategies/actions) but content is specific to a topic or geographic area
- ☐ Because of smaller, more focused scale, can include components of strategic or master plans

Functional Plans

(a.k.a. Functional Master Plans)



Supplements a comprehensive plan, or is done to elaborate on a plan element

- Transportation
- Parks and Recreation
- Historic Preservation
- Agricultural Preservation
- Environmental
- Water / Drainage
- Tourism



